ANNO XXV. HENRICI Octaui.

Actes made in the seſſion of this preſent Parliament holden vpon proro-gation at Weſtminſter, the xv. daye of Januarye, in the xxv yeare of the raigne of our moſt dradoueraigne Lord King Henry the viii. and there contin-ued and kept till the xxx. day of March then next enſuinge, to the honour of God and holy Church, and for the com-mon weale and profite of this his realme.

Excudebat Londini,
Anno. M.D.XXXIII.

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Feb 20 1924

An acte concerning graſiers and bouchers. Capitulo. i.

Where as diuers and ſundry actes and ſtatutes haue lately bene made and eſtabliſhed within thys realme, for preſeruacion of the common welthe of the ſame, amongeſt whiche, the acte for ſellynge of beoffe, mutton, beale, and porke by weyghte is ſo neceſſarye for the preſeruacion of the pouertye of the ſame, that it may in no wyſe be forborne. And for as muche as ſufficient auctho*r*itie is not giuen by the ſayde acte to the Juſtices of peace, mayres, baylyffes, ſhyriffes, and other officers, reherſed in the ſame acte, for to punyſhe offendours, and ſuche other as wyll not ſell by weyghte, accordynge to the force of the ſayde acte. And the bouchers and other offenders pertepynge the ſame, not dreadinge the violacion of the ſayde acte, nor the punyſhementes contepned in the ſame acte, haue wylfully and obſtinately contempned and offended the ſayde acte, and wylle in no wyſe ſell after the ſame, to the hyghe dyſpleaſure of the kinges hyghneſſe, in contempte of his ſayde lawes, and to the greate detriment of the common wealthe of this realme. Be it therfore further enacted by auctho*r*itie of this preſent parliament, that from the .xx. daye of Febr*u*arye, in the yeare of our lorde God M.D.XXXIII. it ſhall be lawfull to all and euerye mayres, Shiryffes, conſtables, baylyffes, and other gouernours of cities, borroughes, and market townes, as well within liberties, as without, to whom anye complaynt ſhall be made of or vpon anye boucher, his wife, ſeruauntes, or other his miniſters, refuſinge to ſell the ſayde victualles, by true and lawfull weyghte, accordinge to the tenour of the ſaide acte heretofore made, not only to committe euery ſuch boucher, and other ſuche offenders, to warde, there to remayne without bayle or maynprize, vntyll ſuche tymes as they and euerye of them ſhall haue payde all the forfaytes and penalties, compryſed in the ſayde former acte, but alſo euery of the ſaid mayres, and other officers aforeſayde, and their deputies, ſhall immediatelye ſell and vtter, or cauſe to be ſolde and vttered for redy money, by true weyghte, all ſuche victuals ſo refuſed to be retayled and ſolde by true and lawfull weyght, accordyng to effecte of the ſaide former acte, deliuerynge alwayes the money therof comminge, vnto the owners of the ſame victuals, whyche owners ſhall be vtterly and for euer excluded to haue any action, ſuite, or demaund againſte anye ſuche mayre or other officer or their deputies, for ſellynge or vtterynge of the ſayde victuals, by true and lawfull weyght, in fourme aforeſayde, or for any other cauſe or thing concerning the ſame. Excepte onely for the money receiued for the ſame victuals, if it be not vppon reaſonable requeſt therof to be made, payde or reſtored without delaie.

And to the entent that the bouchers from tyme to time, maye be the more redye and able to vtter and ſell the ſayde victualles by true and lawfull

weight, It is further ordeined, establyshed, & enacted, by the aucthoritie aforesayde, that euery owner, grasier, fermour, breder, drouer, and brogger of this realme, whiche after the sayde daye shall haue any beoffes, muttons, veales, or porkes, fatte and kepte to be solde for mans meate, shall at all times when so euer anye boucher or bouchers, or other personne or persones, shall resorte to them to bye the same to be killed or retayled agayne by lawfull weyght, shall make sale of their saide cattelles to euerye suche boucher or bouchers, as will bye the same to be retayled by lawfulle weyght, as is aforesayde, at suche reasonable price or pryces, So as the sayde bouchers or others, alwayes may retayle the same againe by lawfull weight, as is aforesayde, accordynge to the effecte of the sayde former acte, made for the sellyng of fleshe by weyghte. The sayde bouchers alwayes payenge for the same cattell ready money in hande, or at suche dayes as the owners of the said cattell may be agreed withall. And if that the said owners, grasiers, fermours, breeders, drouers, and broggers, or any of them at any tyme or times after the sayde .xx daye of Februarye, shall refuse to sette anye suche reasonable pryce, and to make sale of the sayde cattell, in forme aforesayde, to the boucher or bouchers, or to anye other personne or persones, that will bye and kill, and retayle the same agayne by lawfull weyghte (as is aforesayde) that then euery Justice of peace, within the limittes of his commission, inhabitinge next vnto the place, where suche refusall shall be made, and mayres or bayliffes of other places corporated vpon complaynt to be made to him or them therof, by any boucher or bouchers, or other, whiche woulde bye the sayd cattell to sell agayne (as is aforesayde) shall haue fulle power and aucthoritie by vertue of this presente acte, to directe hys or their precepte vnder hys or theyr seale, vnto foure, three, or two honeste, discrete, and indyfferente personnes, not beinge fermours, tenauntes, or seruauntes to the owners of the sayde cattell, commaundinge theym by the same, to sette and taxe the sayde pryces indyfferentely betwene the sayde parties, in suche dyscreete wyse as the bouchers, whyche shall bye the said cattell to retayle and sell againe as is aforesayde, shall be no losers in vtterynge the fleshe of the same cattell agayne by lawfull weight. And if any owner, fermour, grasier, breeder, or brogger, as is aforesayde, or anye of the sayde foure, three, or two indifferente personnes, so to bee appoynted by the sayde Justyces, Mayres, or Baylyffes, or by anye of them at anye tyme after the sayde daye, refuse to obeye and perfourme the tenoure of the sayde precepte, or to vtter and sell their cattell of lyke nature, as is aboue rehersed, in fourme afore sayde, that then all and euerye the sayde owners, fermours, grasiers, drouers, breeders, and broggers, and also the sayde foure, three, or two indyfferente personnes, and euerye of them, makynge anye suche refusall or deniall, or not executynge, or not obeiynge the same, yf it be wythin fortye dayes, before anye of the foure termes of yerely exercisynge or kepinge the lawes of thys realme,

shalbe

shall be comaunded by anye of the sayde Justices, mayres, or baylyffes, euerye suche offendour vppon peyne of xl. poundes personally to appere before the kinges highnesse, and the lordes of his moste honourable counsayle in the sterred chamber at Westminster, or other place of their common assemblie, in the terme nexte ensuinge the same foretye dayes, there to make fyne and abyde suche further punyshment, as shall be thoughte moste conuenient by the discreacion of the chaunceloure of Englande, the Treasourer of Englande, and other the lordes of the sayd counsayle for the time beinge, for their saide refusall, or other their said offente. And if anye suche offence or refusall, shall happen to be committed, in fourme aforesayde, duringe the time of anye of the sayde foure termes, than lyke monicion, payne, and certificatte shall bee made by anye of the sayde Justices, Mayres, or Baylyffes, in fourme before reherced, at the nexte terme then folowinge. And if that anye tyme after the foresayde twentie daye of Februarie, anye of the sayde Justices, or Mayres, or Baylyffes of places corporated, vppon any complaynte so to be made to them, or to anye of them, in fourme afore sayde, dooe not in tyme and place conuenient, vppon reasonable requeste, awarde hys precepte vnto suche foure, three, or two, as he shall thinke by hys discreacion to bee indifferente personnes, and also geue monicion vppon peyne as is aforesayde, and make true relacion and certificate by writinge vnto the kynges sayde highnesse, and vnto hys saide counsayle, in fourme aforesayde, of the sayde refusalle, or other afore sayde misbehauour, of anye of the saide owners, fermours, graziers, drouers, breeders, and broggers, aforesayde, and also of the sayde foure, three, or two indifferent personnes, as the truthe of the case shall require. If the sayde Justices, Mayres, or Bayliffes of places corporate, in tyme and place conueniente, bee reasonablye required so to dooe, that then euerye the saide Justices, Mayres, and Baylyffes aforesayde, beynge reasonablye required in tyme and place conueniente to make his warrante, or to geue monicion, or to make true relacion and certificat accordinge to the tenoure of thys acte, and refusing that to doe in fourme as is aboue remembred, shall lose and forfaite for euery suche defaute forty shillinges. And if the saide maires, shiriffes, Constables, or other gouernours of cities, boroughes, and other markette townes, or anye of them within the limittes of theyr auethorities, by them selfe, or by suche other as they or anye of them shall hereunto limitte and appointe by theyr precepte, dooe not cause the sayde kyndes of victuall from tyme to time to be retayled, uttered, and solde by lawfull weight, accordinge to the tenoure of the sayde former acte, that then euerye of the same Mayres and other officers aforsaide, shall loose and forfayte the summe of forty shyllinges, for euerye tyme that reformacion, accordynge to the effecte and tenour of thys presente acte, in his or their defaulte, is not therof by euerye of them hadde and made vppon anye suche reasonable complaint made in fourme aforesaide.

And that the one moitie of the forfaitures aforesayde, shall be to the vse of the kinges highnes, his heires and successours, and the other moytie vnto anye other person or persones, that will sue for the same, by bylle, playnte, informacion, action of dette, or otherwise, wherein the defendant shall not be admitted to the wager of his lawe, nor none essoin or protection shal be allowed for his defence in that behalfe.

¶ And be it further enacted, by the aucthoritie aforesayde, that the Maire and shyreffes, alwayes for the tyme beynge, of the citye of London shall cause all and euery the foresayd victuals to be vttered and sold by lawfull weyghte within the sayde citie, and the liberties of the same, accordynge to the tenoure of the sayde former acte, and also of thys present acte, vpon peine to lose and forfayte the summe of.xl.s. for euery tyme that complaint therof to them or to anye of them, be reasonablye made, and the same complaint or complaintes not by them remedied and redressed in maner and fourme aforesayde. And that the one moitie of euery suche forfaiture shalbe to the kinges highnes, his heires, and successours, and the other moytye to any other person or persones, that wyll sue for the same in any courte of Recorde of this realme, in like maner as is afore rehersed.

¶ And for as muche as beoffes, muttons, beales, and porkes, by many occasions fortune in some one yere, or in some one tyme of the yeare, to be more scarce or more deere, than at an other, by meane wherof the graziers and bouchers, in suche a due tyme, shall not be able to afforde the same at suche prices and rates, as when they be in more plentie, and better cheape, Be it therfore further enacted, by the aucthoritie aforesaid, that the kinges highnes, his heires and successours, kynges of this realme, from tyme to tyme vppon any complaintes made of anye scarcitie or lacke of beoffes, muttons, beales, or porkes, shall and maye from tyme to tyme cause proclamacion to be made vnder the greatte seale, in suche partyes of thys realme, as shall seeme to his highnes, hys heyres or successours, moste conuenient, that the bouchers and other, whiche be compellable to selle flesshe by weyghe, at prices limitted in the sayde acte, made for sellynge of flesshe by weighte, shall and maie sell for the tyme to be limitted in suche proclamacion, beoffes, muttons, beales, and porkes by retayle without weighe, as here to fore hath bene accustomed, or els by weyghte at suche reasonable prices, as shall be limitted by the sayde proclamacion, and as shall please the kinges highnes, his heires or successours to limitte and as shall please the sayde proclamacion, vppon suche peyne as shall be contryued in suche proclamacions, to be loste and lenied to the kinges vse, accordynge to the tenour of euery suche proclamacion. And that as well euery boucher and other, for sellynge of beoffe, mutton, beale, or porke by retayle, by vertue of suche proclamacion, wythin the tymes to be lymytted in the same, as euerye other persone and persons, beynge bounden by auctoritie of thys acte, to se the sayde bouchers so to doe, vpon the peines aboue specified, shall be discharged & acquited by auctoritie of euerye suche proclamacion of all

penalties

penalties, peines, forfaytures, and losses, whiche they shoulde haue suffered and loste by vertue of the sayde acte, made for sellynge of flesshe by weyghte, or by vertue of this presente acte, in case no suche proclamacion had bene made, anie thinge in the saide acte, made for sellynge of flesshe by weight, or in this present acte conteined, to the contrarie hereof not withstanding.

¶ And where by an acte passed, sythen the begynnynge of thys presente parliamente, it was ordrined and prouided, that no person or persons, bouchers or other, inhabitynge within this realme, Wales, or marches of the same, shoulde from the first day of Januarie laste past, durynge two hole yeres, from thencefoorth nert folowinge, kill or cause to be killed any yonge suckinge calfe or calfes, to be solde or put to sale to anye person or persons, hole or by retaile, which calfe or calues shoulde happen to fal or to be calued, betwene the sayde first day of Januarie, and the sayde fyfte day of May, in any of the sayde two yeres, vppon certeine peines conteined in the saide acte, as by the same acte more at large is expressed. The kinge our soueraigne lorde, of his moste excellent goodnes, to the intent that his louinge subiectes shoulde be the better prouided of plentye of victuals agayne thys holy tyme of Easter nerte comminge, and from thencefoorthe durynge thys yeare, is therfore pleased and contented, that it be establyshed and enacted, by authoritie of this present parliamente, that all bouchers, and other sellinge flesshe by retayle, maye iustifully from the .xii. day of Marche, whiche shalbe in the yeare of our lorde god .M.D.XXXIII. vnto the firste daye of Januarie nert comminge, kill and sell calues by retayle by weighte, accordinge to the saide statute made for sellinge of flesshe by weight, or els accordynge to suche proclamacion, as shall please the kinges hyghnes to make for the same, in fourme as is above reherced, if anye suche proclamacion happen to be made, the sayd late acte made for killinge of calues, to endure for two yeares, to the contrary therof not withstanding.

¶ And be it further enacted by the authoritie of this present parliamente, that the sayde acte made for killinge of calues shall beginne to take effecte at the firste daye of Januarie nerte comminge, and from thencefoorth shall endure and continue two hole yeares nert after that ensuinge, anye thinge conteined in this present acte to the contrarye therof not withstanding.

¶ An acte of proclamacion to be made concerning victuals. Cap. ii.

FOr as muche as dethe, scarsitie, good cheape, and plentye of cheese, butter, capons, hennes, chekinges, & other victuals, necessarie for mens sustenaunce happeneth, falleth, and chaunceth of so many and diuers occasions, that is verye harde & difficile to put any certaine prices to any suche thinges. And yet neuertheles

nertheleſſe the prices of ſuche victualls be many times inhaunſed and reyſed, by the greedye coueteouſnes and appetites of the owners of ſuche victuals, by occaſion of ingroſſinge and regratynge the ſame, more then vppon anye reaſonable or iuſte grounde or cauſe, to the greate damage and impouerishynge of the kinges ſubiectes. For remedye wherof be it enacted by the aucthoritie of this preſent parliament, that vpon euery complaynte made of anye enhaunſynge of pryces of ſuche victuals, without grounde or cauſe reaſonable in any parte of this realme, or in anye other the kynges dominions, the lorde Chauncellour of Englande, the lorde Treaſourer, the lorde Preſident of the kinges moſte honorable counſell, the lorde Priuie ſeale, the lorde Stewarde, the lorde Chamberleine, and all other lordes of the kinges counſaile, the Treaſourer and Comptroller of the kinges moſt honourable houſe, the chauncellour, of the duchie of Lancaſter, the kinges Juſtices of either benche, the Chauncellour, Chamberleins, vnder Treaſourer, and the barons of the kinges eſchequire, or vii. of them at the leaſt, wherof the lorde Chauncellour, the lorde Treaſourer, the lorde Preſident of the kinges counſayle, or the lorde Priuie ſeale to be one, ſhall haue power and aucthoritie, from time to time as the caſe ſhall require, to ſette and tare reaſonable pryces of all ſuche kindes of victuals aboue ſpecified, howe they ſhall be ſolde in groſſe, or by retayle, for relyefe of the kynges ſubiectes. And that after ſuche prices ſette and tared, in fourme aforeſayde, proclamacyon ſhall bee made in the kynges name, vnder the greate ſeale, of the ſayde pryces, in ſuche partes of this realme as ſhall bee conueniente for the ſame.

¶ And be it enacted, that all fermours, owners, broggers, and all other victuallers what ſo euer, hauynge or keeping any of the kindes of victuals afore reherſed to the intent to ſell, ſhall ſell the ſame to ſuche the kinges ſubiectes, as will bye them, at ſuch prices as ſhalbe ſet & tared by the ſayd proclamacion, vpon the paynes to be expreſſed and limitted in the ſayde proclamacion, to be loſte, forfayted, and leuied to the kinges vſe in ſuche wiſe, as by the ſame proclamacion ſhalbe declared.

¶ Prouided alwaye that this acte, or anye thynge therin conteyned, ſhall not be hurtfull to mayres, ſhiriffes, baylyeffes, or other officers of cytyes, boroughes or townes corporate, nor to anye perſon or perſones, or bodyes politike, hauynge aucthoritie to ſet pryces of ſuche victuals, or of anye of them, but that they and euery of them may ſet pryces therof, as if this acte had neuer bene had nor made.

¶ And be it further enacted, by aucthoritie aforeſaid, that no perſon or perſons, oneles it be by licence vnder the kinges greate ſeale, from henceforth ſhall carye or conuey, or cauſe to be caried and conueied, any corne, beoffes, muttons, veales, porkes, or anye other of the aboue ſayde vyctualles, to anye the parties beyonde the ſea, excepte onely for the victuallynge of the towne of Calais, Guiſnes, Hammes, and the marches of the ſame. And excepte for victuallyng of maiſters mariners, and marchauntes of ſhippes

paſſinge

passinge the seas, and also excepte barelled butter, and meale to be caried to the parties of Iselande, as hath bene accustomed, vpon paine of forfaitinge of the value of the thinge conueyed and caried into the parties of beyonde the sea, contrarye to this acte, the one halfe therof to the vse of our sayde soueraigne lorde, and the other halfe to the partye that will sewe for the same, by bill, playnt, writ, or informacion in any of the kinges courtes. In whiche suites the defendant shall not wage his law, nor anye protection or essoine for him shall be allowed.

¶ An acte concerning standing muet and peremptorie challenge. Cap. iii.

WHere at your parliament holden at westminster in the XXIII. yeare of your moste noble reigne, amongest other thinges, it was ordeined, established, and enacted, that no person nor persons, which therafter should happen to be founde guiltie after the lawes of this lande for any maner of petie treason, or for any wilfull murder of malice prepensed, or for robbynge of anye churches, chapels or other holy places, or for robbyng of any persone or persones in their dwellynge houses, or dwellynge place, the owner or dweller in the same house, his wife, his children, seruauntes then beinge within, and put in feare and drede by the same, or for robbynge of any person or persons in or nere aboute the high way, or for wilfull burninge of any dwellinge houses or barnes, wherin any graine of cornes shal happen to be, nor any person or persons, beyng founde guiltie of anye abbetement, procurement, helpinge, maynteinynge or counsailynge, of or to anye suche petie treason, murders, or felonies, should from thencefoorth be admitted to the benefite of his or their clergie, but vtterly be excluded therof, and suffre deathe in such maner and fourme, as they should haue done for any the causes or offences aboue sayde, if they were no clerkes. Suche as be within holy orders, that is to saye, of the orders of subdeacon or aboue, all onely excepte, as more at large appereth by the sayde acte. And for as muche as the saide acte extendeth onely to suche persones, as be founde guiltie after the dewe course of the lawes of this lande, diuers and many greate arrant robbers, murderers, burglariers, and felons, that do offende and committe diuers and many petie treasons, robberies, burglaries, and felonies, contrary to the tenour of the sayde acte, perceiuynge and clerely vnderstandinge, that by the wordes of the same statute and acte, that they should not leese the benefite and aduantage of their clergie, onles that they be founde guiltie after the due course of the law, vpon their arreinment of and vpon the said felonies, robberies, and other offences before said, so by them done and committed, by reason wherof, diuers and many of the same robbers, and felons, vppon their arreynement of the same robberies, and felonies, vppon their

their inditementes againste them, stonde muet, and sometime challenge peremptorye ouer the numbre of.xx. or els will not directely answere to the same inditementes, wherupon they be so arreyned, accordyng to the order of the law. And for that that these especiall cases be not expressely comprysed and conteined within the letter of the same statute, it is necessarie and expedient, that the same case be clerly and diffinitiuely expounded and declared by aucthoritie of this present parliament. And where also as diuers and many felons and robbers, that committe and doe diuers and many greate heynous robberies, and burglaries in one shyre, and conuey the spoyle and robberies into anye other shyre and there be taken, indyted, and arrayned vppon felony and felonous stealynge of the same goodes, in the same other shyre, then there, where the same robberies or burglaries were done and committed, and not vppon the same robberie nor burglarie, for that it was not done nor committed in the same shyre, where they be so indited and arreined, and by reason therof the same misdemeaners, felons, robbers, and burglaries haue and enioye the priuylege and aduantage of their clergie, to the greate hurte and losse of the kynges prerogatiue, and great boldenes of such offenders.

¶ In consideration wherof, be it enacted by the kynge our soueraygne lorde, the lordes spirituall and temporall, and the commons in thys present parliamente assembled, and by aucthoritie of the same, that euerye person and persons that is, or hereafter shall be indited of pety treason, wilfull burninge of houses, murder, robberie, or burglarie, or other felonie, accordinge to the tenour and meaninge of the same statute, and therevpon arrayned, and doe stande muet of malice or frowarde minde, or challenge peremptorye aboue the numbre of.xx. or els will not or dooe not answere directlye to the same inditement and felonye, whereupon he is so arreyned, shall from henceforthe lose the benefite and priuilege of his or their clergie, in like maner and forme, as if he had directly pleaded to the same petie treason, murder, robberie, burglarye, or other felonye, wherupon he is so arrayned, not giltie, & therupon had be founde giltie, after the lawes of the lande.

¶ And by the same aucthoritie be it further enacted, that yf any person or personnes hereafter be indited of Felony for stealyuge of anye goodes or cattelles, in anye county within this realme of Englande, and therupon arrayned and be founde giltie, or stande muet of malice, or chalenge peremptorie aboue the numbre of twentye personnes, as is aforesayde, or will not vppon his sayde arreynement directly aunswere to the same felonye, that then the same person and persons so arrayned and founde gyltye, or stonde muet of malice, or challenge peremptorie aboue the number of twentie persons, or will not directly answere to the lawe, shall lose and be put from the benefite of their clergie, in like maner and fourme as they shoulde haue bene, if they had bene indited and arreyned, & founde gyltie in the same countie, where the same robberie or burglarye was doone

or

or committed, if it shall appeare to the Justices, before whome any suche felons or robbers be arrayned by euidence geuen before them, or by examination, that the same felonies, wherupon they are so arreyned, had bene suche robberies or burgularies, in the same shire, where suche robberies or burglaries were committed or done, by reason wherof they shoulde haue loste the benefite of their clergie by force of the sayde estatute, in case they had bene founde giltie therof in the same shire, where suche robberyes or burglaries were committed and done.

¶ An acte against forstallyng and regrating of fishe. Ca. iiii.

WHere as before this time diuers actes of parlyamente haue bene made by the kinges moste noble progenitours agaynste forstallers and regratours of vittaile and other marchandyse in markets and fayres within this realme of Englande, whyche former statutes, not onely for lacke of due execucion of the same, but also for lacke of condigne punishmente in the saide statutes conteined, be lyttell feared or regarded, for diuers and manye of the kinges subiectes, contrarye to the meaninge of the sayde estatutes, nothinge regardinge the displeasure of almightye god, and of the kinges highnes, ne yet the loue and charitie, that they oughte to haue to their neighbours and common wealth of this realme, for theyr priuate lucre and synguler auayle, commonly, in euerye markette and fayre within this realme, dooe forstall and regate all maner of vittaile, as corne, wines, fishe and flesh, and specially in Sturbridge faire, Ives faire, and Elye faire, beynge the moste notable fayres within thys realme, for prouision of fyshe, and moste to the releife of the kinges subiectes, if suche forstallynge and regratinge might be set on side, whiche is moste vsed by the inhabitauntes of London, and other the kynges subiectes, that onely before the sayde fayres, resorte to the easte sea side or sees coastes, and there bye vppon the stone all maner of fyshe, as well the fyshe that commeth from Iseland, as the fyshe that is taken in the sayde easte sea or sea coastes, neare adioyninge to the parties of this realme, and incontinently they repayre to the sayd Sturbridge fayre, and from thence to the sayde other faires, and there they sell againe the sayde fishe in maner at their owne price and pleasure and not onely sell the same fishe there, but also they bie vp all maner of fishe thither brought by anye persone, as saltefyshe, stockefyshe, lynge, haburden, lobbefyshe, and suche other kindes of saltfishe, and sell the same againe in the same fayre or fayres, so that the kinges subiectes be driuen to bye all suche fyshe, as to them is requisite and necessarye, at the seconde, thirde, or fourthe hande, by reason whereof a greate scarsenes and dearthe doeth insue to the kinges subiectes in all places throughe out this realme, to the greate

greate displeasure of almightye god, and of the kinges highnes, and to the great impouerishing of the kinges subiectes.

¶ Be it therfore enacted, by auctoritie of this present parliament, that no maner of person or persons, of what estate, degree, or condicion he or they be, other than suche person or persones, as nowe be, or hereafter shall bee marchant venterers to Islande for the sayde fishe, or that be doggers, otherwyse called doggermen, or suche as nowe, or hereafter shall be fishermen, that actually labour for the takinge of the sayde fishe in the sayde east sea side, or east sea coaste, shall bye any of the kindes of the sayde fyshe at or vpon the stone, or at the sayde east sea syde, or east sea costes, to sell the same fishe agayne, or any part therof, at any of the sayde fayre or faires, called Sturbridge faire, saincte Iues faire, or Ely fayre, and that no maner of person or persons other then the sayde marchantes venterers, doggers, or fishermen, shall from hence forth sell any saltfishe, stockefishe, lynge, haburden, lobbefyshe, or suche other kinde of saltfyshe, at or wythin any of the sayd fayre or fayres, wherof the kinde of the sayde fish is vsually wont to be laide vpon lande, at the said east sea side.

¶ Also it is enacted, that no maner of person or persones, beynge owner or owners of any of the sayd shippe or shippes, ne yet any maysser or maysters of the sayde shippes, shall at any time hereafter, bie anye dole or doles of any of the mariners, of any of the sayde shippe or shippes, called the mariners dole fishe.

¶ And also it is further enacted, by the auctoritie aboue said, that no maner of personne or persones from henceforthe, shall forstalle and bye anye of the saide fishe, in coming to the saide fayre or fayres, to sell the same againe in any of the sayde faires, excepte it be for the necessarye victaylynge of the said fayre or fayres, to be there eaten and spente, duerynge the tyme of the saide fayres.

¶ It is also enacted, by the auctoritie aforesaide, that no maner of person or persons at anye tyme hereafter shall bye anye stockefishe, saltefishe, lynge, haburden, lobbfyshe, or any other kinde of saltefishe, within the said fayre or fayres, to sell the same againe within the said fayre or fayres, except it be for the necessarie victaylinge of the sayde fayre or fayres, to be eaten and spende within the same fayres, duringe the time of the sayde fayre and fayres. Upon the peine to euerie person or persons, so offendinge any of the sayde articles before rehersed, contrarye to the meaninge of this act, to forfayt the same fishe so bought, forstalled, or regrated, the one halfe therof to be to the kinge our soueraygne lorde, and the other halfe to be to the partie that will sease or take his action or suite for the same, and that it be lawfull to all and singuler the kynges subiectes, to take the same fishe so forfayt by the waye of seisier, or to sue for the same by originall writte, bille, informacion in the kinges eschequire, or any other the kinges courtes of recorde, or in the same courte of the sayde fayre or fayres, called the courte of Pe-

pow-

powders, at his or their pleasure, in whiche action or suite the defendant or defendauntes shall not wage their lawe, ne yet be aided by essoin or protec, tion. And that the stewarde of euery of the said faires for the time being shall yerelye cause this presente estatute to be openly proclaymed and redde at three seueral dayes within the same fayre, that is to saye at twoo seueral dayes in the beginnynge of the same fayre, and at an other daye, in the middes of the same fayre, to the intent the kinges subiectes maye be throughly instructed of euery article conteined in this estatute, vppon the peyne of forfaiture of hys sayde office of Stewardshyppe, and to forfayte to our soueraigne lorde the kinge, for euerye suche defaute, that proclamacion is not made, as is aboue sayde. xl.s.

¶ Prouided alwaye, and be it enacted, that none of the sayde marchauntes venterers, doggermen, or fishermen, shall at anye tyme here after bye anye fishe at the Stone, at the easte sea syde, or sea costes, to sell the same fishe againe in the saide fayre or fayres, by couin or fraude, to the vse of any other person or persones, other then for their onely vse or vses, vppon lyke peine as is aboue rehersed. And that euerye of the kinges subiectes may haue lyke aduauntage by seisure of the same fishe, or by waye of action or suite, for the winninge or gayninge of the same, as is aforesayde.

And also that no maner of person or persons hereafter be reputed or taken to be a marchaunt venterer, to take aduauntage, or benefite of this acte, excepte his aduenture in the sayde shippe or shippes to Islande, shall amounte to the summe, of xx.li. without fraude or couin.

¶ Prouided alwaies that this acte nor any thinge therin conteined, shall be in any wise hurtefull or preiudiciall vnto anye person or persons, beinge fishers dwellinge or inhabitinge in anye place or places benorthe the ryuer of Humbre, but that they and euerye of them maye vse their crafte and sellynge of all maner of fishe, by them or anye of them hereafter to be taken benorthe the sayde riuer of Humbre aforesayde, in like maner and fourme, as they or anye other their predecessours fishers haue vsed to doo heretofore. And that the byers of the same fishe maye lawfully sell the same in any of the sayde faires, in maner and fourme as in the aboue sayde acte is conteined, any thinge in the sayde acte to the contraye made, or expressed to the contrary not withstanding.

¶ An acte for callendring of worstedes. Ca. b.

Where as at the parliamente holden at westminster, the .xxiii. daye of Januarye in the .b. yere of oure soueraigne lordes reygne the kinge that now is, there was an acte and one estatute made, prouided, and established, for the auoidinge of deceites & falsnes, in worstedes, as well, by reason of drye callendringe thereof with gummes, oyles, and presses, as also by weete cal-

lendynge, by persones hauinge no cunninge in orderinge of the same, whiche acte was made to endure but onely to the parliamente thenne nexte folowinge. And for as muche as it is euidently knowen, that the same acte and estatute aforesayde, is very good and necessarie for the common wealthe of this realme. Wherfore the kinge our souereigne lorde by the aduise and consente of hys lordes spirituall and temporall, and the commons of thys presente parliamente assembled, and by the auctoritie of the same hath ordeyned, enacted, and established, that the sayde acte and estatute, made in the .v. yeare of his moste noble raygne aforesayde, and euery thing therin conteyned, shall from the feaste of saincte Mychaell the archangell nexte comminge, continue and be good and effectuall in euerye poynte and article of the same for euer.

¶ And furthermore be it enacted and established, by the auctoritie aforesayde, for the common welthe of the citie of Norwiche and mayntenance, supportacion, and vpholdyng of the houses, tenementes, and inhabitacions of the same, that no maner person vsinge the crafte and misterye of dyenge of worstedes, stamins, or sayes, or of anye of them, nother by them selues, or any seruante, factour, deputie, or any other by his commaundement or assignemente, from the feaste of Christmas nowe nexte ensuinge, shall vse to callender anye worstedes, stamins, or saies, or anye other commodities made of worstede yarne, duringe all suche times as the same personne shall vse the misterie or crafte of dyinge aforesayde, vppon peine to forfayte for euery peece so died and callendred by collour, couyn, fraude, or contrarye to the true meaninge and intent of thys present acte xl.s. & to be deuided in three egal parties, the one parte therof to the kinge our souereigne lorde, and one other parte to the maire for the time beinge, and the thyrde parte to him or them that will sue for the same by bylle, action of dette, playnte, informacion, or otherwise, in anye of the kinges courte, wherin none essoine, delaie, or protection shalbe allowed.

¶ An acte for the punishement of the vice of buggerie. Ca. vi.

FOr as muche as there is not yet sufficient and condigne punishment, appointed & limitted by the due course of the lawes of this realme, for ỳ detestable & abhominable vice of buggeri cõmitted with mankind or beast. It may therfore please the kinges highnes, with the assent of his lordes spirituall & temporall, & the commons of of this present parliament assembled, that it may be enacted by auctoritie of the same, that the same offence be from henceforth adiudged felony, & suche order and fourme of proces therin to be vsed againste the offendours, as in cases of felony at the common lawe. And that the offendours beinge hereof conuicte by verdicte, confession, or outlawrie, shall suffre suche peynes of deathe, and losses, and penalties of their goodes, cattel, debtes, landes tenementes and hereditamentes, as felons hemne accustomed to

do

do accordinge to the order of the common lawes of this realme. And that no person offendinge in anye suche offence, shalbe admitted to his clergye. And that iustices of peace shall haue power and authoritie within the lymittes of their commissions and iurisdiction, to here and determine the sayde offence, as they doe vse to do in cases of other felonies. This acte to endure tyll the laste day of the nexte parliament.

¶ An acte againste killinge of yonge spaune or frie of peles and Salmon. Cap. vii.

FOr as muche as greate hurte and dayely inconuenience haue and doe ensue vnto all the kinges subiectes of thys realme by the gredie apetites & insaciable desire, whiche sundrye of them occupienge fishinge, haue vsed, by takinge, killinge, and distroyinge the yonge spaune, frie, or broode of yeles and salmon, as welle in salte ryuers as in freshe ryuers, lakes, plashes, fennes, and marshes in manie parties of this realme, to the no littell hinderaunce and derogacion of the common weale of the same, as also in killinge of salmons, when they be vnseasonable and not holsome for mans bodye, called commonly kypper salmons. It is therfore enacted by the kinge our soueraigne lorde, the lordes spirituall and temporall, and the commons in this present parliament assembled, & by the authoritie of the same, that from the firste daie of Februarye nexte comminge, vnto the laste daye of July then nexte ensuinge, and so yerely from hencefoorthe, duringe the space of tenne yeres, no maner of person or persones, of what estate, degree or condicyon, so euer they be, with anye maner of net, wheele, or with any deuise or engine made of heare, canuas, or wyth anye other cautelle shall willingly presume to take anye frie, spaune, or broode of yeles, called yelefares, or Ell bares, in any ryuers or waters salte or freshe, within thys realme of Englande, or wales, or in the marches of the same. And ouer this that duringe the sayde ten yeres, no maner of person or persones, from the first day of May, whiche shalbe in the yere of our lorde god. M.D.XXXV. vnto the firste daye of Septembre then nexte folowinge, & so yerely from thencefoorth during the saide .x. yeres, shall presume willingly to take or destroy in or by meanes of anye wele, butte, nette, berd net of heare, taining, lepe, hiue, crele, raw web, lister, sier, or by any other engine in Iudgate, salmon pipe, or at the tayle of any mille or were, or in anye stretes, ryuers, ryues, or brokes, salte or freshe within the realme of Englande, Wales, Barwicke, and the marches of the same, the yonge frye, spaune, or broode of anye kinde of salmon, called lakspinkes, snowtes, or salmon pele. And that no maner of person or persones, of what degree or condicion he shalbe of, from the feaste of the exaltacion of the holye crosse, to the feast of saincte Martyne in the winter, duringe the sayde tenne yeres, shall willingly by anye meanes

aforesayde, or other wise kill or destroye anye salmons, not in season, called kypper salmons, within anye fresshe ryuer or salte riuer, or in places, where at that time suche salmons haue naturally their repayre, within thys realme of Englande, Wales, Barwicke, or within the marches of the same. And if anye person or persones, after anye of the sayde dayes limitted in this presente acte, offende in anye of the pointes before reherced, contrarye to the tenoure, fourme, and purporte of anye parte of the same, then euerye suche persone or persones (so offendinge) shall lose and forfayte for euerye tyme of his or their suche offence, the summe of fyue poundes, and the fishe. And also the vnlawfull nettes, and other vnlawfull engines or deuises, what so euer they bee, made, kepte, or vsed for the kyllynge takynge, or destroiynge of the sayde kypper salmon, or of anie of the ponge broode, spaune, or frie of yeles or salmon before reherced. The one halfe of the saide forfaiture shall bee to the kynges highnesse, his heires, and successours, and the other halfe shall be to him that will sue for the same by action of dette, bylle, playnte, or otherwise in anye courte of Recorde within this realme, Wales, or Barwicke, or the marches of the same.

And that the Justices of assise, and also the Justyces of peace in euerye assise and quarter sessions in all counties within this realme, and all lordes hauinge courtes royall in Englande, Wales, or Barwicke, and in the marches of the same, shall haue full power and auctoritie, by vertue of this presente acte, not onely to enquire of and vppon the defaultes and offences, committed contrarye to the tenoure and effecte of this present acte, but also to se due punishement and reformacion therof, in forme aforesayde, from tyme to tyme, durynge the space of the sayde tenne yeres, as often as the case shall so require in euery behalfe.

¶ An acte concerninge pauinge of Holburne, and other paulmentes within the citie & suburbes of London. Ca. viii.

COmplaineth to your highnes, and to your highe courte of parliament, not all onely your subiectes, and inhabitantes within the streete of Holburne, but also all the poore cariers and other your subiectes, beinge common trauaylers, repairynge weekely and monthely to your citie of London, that where the sayde streete being the common passage for all cariages, caried from weste and northwest parties of the realme, was of late tyme so well and substancially paued, that your subiectes hadde good and sure passage throughe the sayde streete, tyll nowe of late, for lacke of renewinge of the sayde pauynge by the landlordes, whiche dwell not within the citie, the waye is so noious and so full of sloughes and other incumbraunces, that oftentymes many of your subiectes, ridinge through the sayd streete and waye, be in ieoperdie of hurte, and haue almoste perished. Pleaseth it your highnes, and the lordes

spiritual

ſpirituall & temporall, & the commons in this preſente parliament aſſembled, to enact, by the auctho̅itie of the ſame, that all and ſinguler perſones, their heires, & ſucceſſours, whiche now haue, o̅r hereafter ſhall haue anye landes, tenementes, o̅r hereditamentes betwene the bridge, called Holburne bridge, and the barres at the weſt ende of the ſayde ſtreete, be it on the one ſide of the ſtrete and other, in fee ſimple, fee taile, o̅r for terme of life, ſhall before the feaſte of ſaincte Michael, whiche ſhall be in the yere of our lorde god 1534. ſufficiently paue̅ o̅r cauſe to be paued withe pauinge ſtone, alonge from his o̅r their landes o̅r tenementes, adioyninge to the highe waye, all ſuch quantitie of the ſayde ſtrete, and in ſuch places as the ſaid ſtrete at any time before the making of this acte, hath bene paued, vpon peine to forfayt to your highnes your heires & ſucceſſours, for euery yarde ſquare not ſufficiently pauid by the ſaid day limitted & aſſigned in forme before expreſſed. vi.d.

¶ And be it alſo enacted, by the auctho̅itie aforeſaide, that all and euerye perſon and perſones, hauinge anye of the ſayde landes and tenementes in poſſeſſion o̅r in vſe, in fee ſimple, fee tayle, o̅r for terme of lyfe, adioynynge to the ſayde highe waie and ſtrete, their heires and ſucceſſours ſhall from & after the ſayde feaſte of ſainct Michael, the which ſhall be in the ſaid yere of our lorde god. 1534. ſufficiently maintein the pauement of the ſayd way & ſtrete, againſte euery their ſaid landes and tenementes, in ſuche & like forme as is aboue declared, vpon peine to forfait to your highnes, for euery yarde ſquare of the ſayd pauement, not ſufficiently pued, repaired, & amended, as often as anye ſuche defaulte of any perſon ſhall be preſented before the maire and the aldermen of the ſame citie. vi.d. And that it be further enacted, by the auctho̅itie aforeſaid, the ſaid maire & the aldermen, for their time beinge maie haue full power & auctho̅itie to enquire in euery quarter of the yere after the ſaide feaſt of ſainct Michaell, the whiche ſhalbe in the yere of our lord god. 1534. by the othe of. xii. men of the ſaide citie, aſwel of them that haue not pued accordinge to the prouiſion aforeſayd, as alſo of them that remiſſly o̅r inſufficiently ſhal hereafter maintein the ſame pauement, o̅r any other pauement within the ſaide citie & the ſuburbes of the ſame. And that the ſaide maire and the aldermen maye haue power and auctho̅itie, after euerie ſuche defaulte before them preſented, to ſeſſe fines by their diſcreations, and the ſaide fines to be certified into the kinges eſchequire, and the barons therof to make proces by diſtreſſe to be taken vppon the ſayd landes and tenementes, o̅r otherwiſe by their diſcreation, as well for the ſaide fynes aſſeſſed, as for their penalties before limitted.

¶ Prouided alwaye that if the leſſees of the ſayde landes, o̅r of other landes within the citie, o̅r ſuburbes of the ſame, do ſufficiently paue o̅r repaire before their manſions o̅r dwellinge places, the ſtretes, whiche haue vſed to be paued, that then they and euery of them ſhall defalke, abate, and reteine in his o̅r their owne handes, as muche of the rentes dewe to the leſſours, as they can proue, to haue expended on the ſame pauinge, and the reſſor, for ſo muche as that ſumme dothe amounte to, to haue no action nor

reentre for the none paymente of the same, Excepte it be otherwyse agreed betwene them.

¶ And be it further enacted by auctho͞rite afore saide, that lyke order bee obserued for pauinge of the streetes in the borough of Southwarke, as is before mencioned to be done in the citie of London. So alwayes that the reformacion and punishement of the offences ther, shall reste in the maire of the citie of London, as farre onely as is within the iurisdiction of the sayde citie, and the residue in the Justices of peace of the countye, where the same streetes be. And that the same Justices of peace shall by vertue hereof, haue power to make inquierie vpon the premisses, and heare, determin, and punishe the defaultes in maner and forme aforesaide.

¶ An acte concerninge Pewterers. Cap. ix.

IN their moste lamentable wise shewen, and pyteously complayning vnto the kinges moste royall maiestie, and to thys his moste highe courte of parliamente, the kynges moste humble, poore, and obediente subiectes, the maister wardens and poore felowshipe of the crafte and misterye of pewterers, as well of the citie of London, as of all other places within this realme of Englande, that wher the said craft or misterie before this time hath bene one of the best handy crafces within this realme, which hath onely growen and continued by meane of diuers good actes and statutes made for the true exercise of the same, wherof one was made in the .xix. yere of the reygne of the kinges moste renowned father, whose soule god pardon, and one other was made in the fourth yere of the kinges most victorious reigne, concerning the craftes of pewterers & brasiers, of and for the true makinge myrring and sellinge of good and true pewter and brasen vessels, and also for exercisinge and vsinge of true weightes and beames to be occupied by the sellers of anye suche pewter or brasen vessels within this realme, so that none of the kinges subiectes, nor anye other persone shoulde bye anye sale of anye false mixed brasen or pewter vessell, or anye vntrue weightes be deceiued, as by the sayde estatutes more playnely dothe apere wherby the good estatutes duely put in execucion, hath caused the sayde craft to encrese and multiplye, to the greate profite and vtilitie of a great numbre of the kinges subiectes, and the commoditie of pewter vessell muche to be hadde in reputacion in all straunge regions and countryes, vntill nowe of late dyuers euill disposed persones, beinge the kynges subiectes borne, whiche haue bene apprentises and brought vp in the exercise of the sayde crafte of pewterers, haue nowe of late for their singuler lucre repaired into straunge regions and countries, and ther do exercise the sayde crafte of pewterers, teachinge straungiers not onely the cunninge of mixinge and forgeinge of all maner of pewter vessell, but also doe teache all thinges belonginge to the

the said crafte of pewterers, by meane wherof there is not onely brought dayly into this realme out of straunge regions to be solde a greate numbre of thinges made of pewter, untruely mixed and made of tynne, wherewith the kynges subiectes be dayely deceiued, and the people of straunge countreys greatly instructed in the cunnyng of the sayde crafte of pewterers, so that thereby not onely a great noumbre and quantitie of pewter vessell and other thinges of pewter, made in diuers sortes and fashions amountinge to a greate value, whiche was dayely and continually wonte to be caried and conueyed out of this realme by marchauntes into straunge regyons and countries, there to be solde and vttered. Wherby the commoditye of tinne made into pewter vessell, whiche hath bene had in greate estimacion, as thinges verye necessarye and commodious, and the kynges customes therby muche aduaunced, is now like vtterly to cease & to decay, and not to be esteemed, as heretofore hathe bene but also the sayde crafte of pewterers, whiche at this daye setteth and kepeth in worke and occupacion a greate numbre of people, shall be vtterly vndone, and a greate multytude of the kinges naturalle subiectes therby fall into idlenes, to the greate impouerishment of this realme, if spedye remedye for the redresse of the premysses be not prouided. In tender consideracion whereof, and for reformacion of the premisses, it maye please the kinges highnes, by the assente of the lordes spirituall and temporall, and the commons in this presente parliamente assembled, and by auctoritie of the same to ordeyne and enacte, that no person or persons hereafter at anye time nowe inhabitinge, or whiche hereafter shall inhabite within this realme, shall bye, or otherwyse take by exchaunge for other wares anye maner wares made, or hereafter to be made out of this realme, of tynne or mixte with tinne, as platers, dysshes, saucers, potes, salons, ewers, flagons, goblettes, saltes, saltsellers, spones, or anye other thyng made of tinne or pewter, as is afore sayd, what so euer it be, vppon peyne of forfayture of the same ware, in whose handes so euer it maye be founde or taken, and also lawfull money currant in this realme, to the full value therof. The one halfe of the same forfaiture to be to the vse of the kinges highnes, and the other halfe to be to the vse of the finders of the same.

¶ And furthermore be it enacted, that it shall be lawfull to the mayster and wardens of the sayde crafte of pewterers, as well within the citie of London, as within euery other citie, borough, and towne of this realme, wher suche wardens be, and where no suche wardens be, to the head officer or gouernour, head officers or gouernours of the same cytie, borough or towne for the tyme beinge, to appoynte diuers persones moste expert in knowledge of the same, to make serche and sesure, and to take into their handes and possessyons all suche wares, as hereafter shall be broughte contrarye to the true entent and effecte of this presente acte, in whose so euer handes or possession any suche shall be founde.

¶ And also be it enacted, by auctoritie aboue sayde, that no persone nor persons,

persons, occupienge the sayde craft or occupacion of pewterers within this realme, shall set on worke or retaine in his or their seruice anye person or persons to be his or their apprentice or iourneyman being straunger borne out of this realme, vpon peyne to forfaite for euerie suche apprentice and iourneyman .x.li. sterlinge. And that no straunger, borne out of this realme shall occupie, exercise, or vse from the feaste of Seynt Iohn Baptiste nexte comminge, the sayde craft of pewterers, ne worke any maner of vessell or other ware afore sayde, to be made of tinne or pewter, within any place or places of thys realme, vppon peine of forfaiture of tenne pounde sterlinge, and also vppon payne of forfaiture of the same pewter or tinne so wrought, in whose handes so euer it may be founde or taken.

And also be it enacted by aucthoritie afore sayde, that no person nor persons beinge borne within this realme, occupienge or exercisinge the sayde craft of pewterars, shall at any tyme hereafter resort into anye straunge regions or countryes, there to vse, teache, or exercise the sayde craft of pewterers, vpon peine to lose the priuilege and benefitte of an Englishe man.

And if in case anye of the kinges subiectes, at this presente time being dwellinge in anye straunge countrye or region, and there occupienge the sayde craft of pewterers, do not repayre into this realme within three monethes nexte after requeste and warninge to him to be giuen, by writinge sealed with the common seale of the wardens of the sayde craft within the sayde citie of London, & here in this realme continually from henceforthe dwell and inhabit, that then and from thencefoorth he shalbe reputed and taken as no Englishe man, but shall stande and be from thencefoorthe out of the kinges protection.

And for as muche as sundrie euil disposed persons, whiche commonlye bene called haukers, by aucthoritie of the king letters patentes or placardes, doe not onely goe aboute from place to place within this realme, chinge by-inge & sellynge of brasse and pewter, and by colour & pretence of the same lycences or placardes, vse vnlawfull and deceiuable weightes and beames, but also do vse to sell bothe brasse and pewter, whiche is not good nor truly, nor lawfully marte nor wrought, to the greate decepte of the kinges true liege people, contraye to the forme and effecte of the sayde good act & statute made in the sayde .iiii. yere of the kinges moste noble reyne, be it therfore enacted by aucthoritie of this present parliament, that all suche licences and placardes, here to fore hadde, made, or graunted to anye suche persone or persones, contrary to the true meaninge, forme and effecte of this estatute, shall be from henceforth by aucthoritie of this presente parliament, clerely voyde and of none effecte. And where as in the sayd act of parliament, concerning the craft of pewterers and brasiers, made in the sayde .iiii. yere for diuers causes and consideracions in the same acte conteined, amongest other thinges it is expressed, that no person or persons, vsynge the sayde crafte of pewterers or brasiers, shoulde from thencefoorthe sell or chaunge any pewter or brasse, newe or olde, at any place or places within thys re-

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alms, but onely in open faires or markets, or in their owne dwellinge houses, but if they were desired by the biers of suche wares, vppon peine of forfaiture for euery such defaulte x.li.

¶ For as muche as the same forfayture is to the onely vse of the kynges highnes, and that any partye serchinge or findinge the same, is not intytled to haue anye benefite therby, it hath not bene knowen, that anye person or persons haue taken any peine to enserch or make anye inquierie therof, by reason wherof diuers and many euil disposed persones, vsynge bynge and sellynge bothe of brasse and of pewter, and not regardynge the sayde good acte neither the sayde penaltie, dayely goe aboute from village to village, towne to towne, and from house to house, to sell suche pewter and brasse, whiche is not good, and also vse deceiuable weightes and beames, as they did before the making of the sayde acte, to the greate hurte and deceite of the kinges true liege people and subiectes. Wherfore be it enacted by the authoritie aboue sayde, that as well the moytie of the sayd forfayture of x.li. limitted in the sayde statute, made in the sayde fourthe yere, as also the moytie of all other forfaytures before expressed, and euerye of them be and shall be to the vse of the kinges highnes, his heires and successours, and the other moytie of the sayde forfaytures, and euerye of them, to the vse of hym or them, that shall seaze, finde, or presente the sayde forfaytures or anye of them, or that shall sue for the same in any competent courte or courtes within this realme, by action of dette, bill, plaint, or informacion, wherin the defendant shall in no wise be admitted to wage his lawe, nor anye protection or essoine to anye person or persons, whiche shall be impeched to haue offended contrarye to the forme and effecte of this estatute, shalbe allowable. This act to endure to the last day of the next parliament.

¶ An acte concerning the othe of commissioners of sewers. Ca. x.

BE it enacted by the authoritie of this present parliament, that the acte laste made for sewers, and the commission therin recited, shalbe extended, vsed, and put in execution in the towne and marches of Calais, accordinge to the tenoure of the same commission in like effecte, as it is enacted to be put in execution within this realme, & that no persone shalbe compelled to be sworne, or otherwise bounde to sit or trauayle in execution, of anye commission of sewers within this realme, oneles that he be dwellinge within the countye, wherof he is or shalbe assigned to be a commissioner, and for Calais, and the sayde marches therof, oneles that he be dwellinge within the same towne of Calais or marches.

¶ And because that diuers persones heretofore assigned to be commissioners haue refused to be sworne, accordinge to the sayde former acte wherby diuers commissioners heretofore made, remayne hitherto without effectuall

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execucion. Be it therfore enacted, that if anye person assigned or to be assigned, to be suche commissioner of sewers, beinge required hereafter by suche person or persons as haue or shall haue auctoritie by the kinges writte, or otherwise, to receiue or accepte the othe compriſed in the sayde former acte, euery person that so refuseth to take the same othe, or vppon that requeste made, doe not receiue the same othe, and that refusall or contempte done in the chauncerye, or returne into the chauncerye with the sayde writte, shall lose and forfayte for the same contempte to the kinge our soueraygne lorde, fiue markes, and so to lose from tyme to time fiue markes for euerye suche contempte, as shall be done or returned to the sayde chauncerye against any suche persones, oneles that he in the same chauncerie do shew and alledge in the sayde terme, wherin suche returne shall be made agaynste him, sufficient and reasonable matter and cause to be allowed by the lorde Chauncellour for his excuse and discharge in that behalfe.

¶ An acte to auoide the distruction of wildefowle. Ca. xi.

Where before this time ther hath bene within this realme greate plentye of wildefowle, as duckes, mallardes, wygeons, teales, wildegeese and diuers other kyndes of wildefowle, wherby not onely the kinges moste honourable householde, but also the houses of the noble men and prelates of this realme, haue bene furnished for the necessarie expences of the same houses at conuenient prices, but also al markets of the same realme were sufficiently furnished with wildfowle there to be solde in such wise, that such as were mete to make prouision of the same for their houses, might at reasonable prices, at the same markets, be therof prouided. Nevertheleſſe diuers persons nette inhabytinge in the countries and places within thys realme, wher the substaunce of the same wildefowle hath bene accustomed to brede, haue in the sommer season, at suche time as the sayde olde fowle be mouted and not replenyshed with feehers to flie, nor the ponge fowle fully fethered perfectly to flye, haue by certayne nettes & other ingins and policies verely taken greate numbre of the same fowle, in suche wise, that the broode of wildefowle is almoste therby wasted and consumed, and daily is like more and more to waste and consume, if remedy be not therfore prouided. Be it therefore enacted by the kinge our soueraigne lorde, by the assent of the lordes spirituall and temporall and the commons in this presente parliamente assembled, and by the auctoritie of the same, that it shal not be lawfull to any person or persones hereafter betwene the laste day of Maye, and the laste daye of Auguste, to take or cause to be taken anye suche wildefowle, with nettes or anye other ingins, vpon peine of one yeres imprisonment, and to forfayt for euery fowle so taken. iiii. d. The one halfe therof to be to the king our soueraigne lorde, and the other halfe to him that will sue for the same by action of dette in

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anye of the kings courtes, and in the whiche action none essoyne nor protection shalbe alowed, nor wager of the lawe receiued.

¶ And be it enacted by auctoritie aforesayde, that all Justices of peace within the limittes of theyr commission, shall haue power and auctoritie to enquire, here, and determine the offences aforesayde, lyke as they commonly vse and do in cases of trespas.

¶ Prouided alwayes that it shalbe lawfull to any gentleman, or any other that maye dispende. rl. s. by the yere, of freeholde, to hunte and take suche wildfowle withe their spanieles onely, without vsinge anye net or other ingins for the same, excepte it be a longe bowe or long bowes.

¶ Prouided also and be it enacted by the saide auctoritie, that from the firste daye of Marche, whiche shall be in the yere of our lorde god. M. D. XXXIIII. vnto the laste daye of June then nexte ensuinge, and so yerely from thencefoorthe, no maner of person or persones shall presume by daye or by nighte, willingly to withdrawe, purloyne, take distroye, or conuey anye maner of egges of any kinde of wildfowle, from or in anye neste, place, or places, where they shall chaunce to be layde by any kinde of the same wilde fowle, vpon peine of imprisonment for one yere, and to lese and forfayte for euery egge of anye crane or bustarde, so destroyed, purloyned, withdrawen conueyde, or taken from anye neste or place, .xx.d. and for euerye egge of euerye bittour, heronne, or shouelarde .viii.d. and for euerye egge of euerye malarde, teele, or other wilde fowle, one penye. The one moitie therof to be to the kinge our soueraygne lorde, and the other halfe to him that will sue for the same, in forme aforesayde, wherin no wager of lawe, essoine or protection shall be allowed. And that all Justices of peace, within the limittes of their commission, shall haue full power and auctoritie to enquire, here, and determine the same, in forme before rehersed.

¶ Prouided alwaies that this acte extende not, nor be hurtefull at anye time hereafter to anye person or persones, that will distroy anye crowes, choughes, rauons, and bosardes, or their egges, or to anye other fowle or their egges, not comestible, nor vsed to be eaten.

¶ An acte concerning the attainder of Elizabeth Barton, and others, which vnder colour of hypocrisie, dissimuled sanctite, and false feined miracles, traitorously intende to distroy our soueraine lorde the king, & to deprive him of his royalme and dignitie royall. Ca. xii.

THe lordes and commons in this presente parliament assembled, moste humblye beseechen the kinges highenes, that for the declaracion of his moste pure & sincere conscience, in the deuyce & seperacion lawfully had & done betwene his maiestie, & the righte excelente princes, the ladye Katherine, and for due punishment to be hadde of such persones as maliciously maligning againste the same, haue traiterously et-

attempted manye notable acte, intendinge therby the disturbance of the peace and tranquillite of this realme, for repression, example, and reformacion of the malices and malignities, whiche hereafter maye be falsely conspired and compassed by such euell doers to make diuision within this realme; that it may be enacted in maner and fourme folowing, that is to say.

Whereas our sayde soueraigne lorde, like a good and a vertuous prince beinge afflicted and for incombred in his conscience withe the mariage, whiche was solempnised betwene his maiestie, and the sayde righte excellente princes the lady Katherine, late wife of the righte excellente prince Arthur, naturalle brother to our sayde soueraigne lorde, to the whiche prince Arthur, the saide lady Katherine was lawfully maried, and by him carnallie knowen, for the onely discharge of his conscience againste almighty god, by all true wayes and meanes inserched, studied, deuised, and consulted, as well with sondrye vniuersities of christendome, as withe a greate numbre of excellente clerkes learned in diuinitee, of the validitie and invalidite of the sayde mariage solempnised betwene his highnes, and the sayde lady Katherine beinge before the sayde mariage his sayde brothers wife, and by him carnally knowen. And after the determinate and playne iudgementes of the sayde sundrye vniuersites and well learned men, by reason of inserches in the holy scriptures of god, by a great aduise and deliberacion, it was declared and signified vnto our sayde soueraigne lorde, that the saide mariage solempnised betwene his highnes, and the sayde lady Katherine, was prohibited and detested by the lawes of almightye god, our sayde soueraigne lorde there vpon pursued for a iuste and lawfull seperation and deuorse to be hadde, betwene his highenes and the sayde lady Katherine from the bondes of the sayde vnlawfull & detestable mariage, as to a good catholike prince beseemeth to doe in that behalfe, to the intente that his maiestie, vnder the bondes of a lawfull mariage, consonant and agreable vnto the lawes of almightie god, might haue issue and procreation for the wealthe, peace, reste, tranquilitie, and suretie of this his realme and subiectes of the same, whiche deuorse and seperation is now lawfully hadde, and our sayde soueraigne lorde iustly and lawfully maried to his moste deere and entierly beloued wife queene Anne, and by her hath hadde issue, and is lyke. god beinge pleased, to haue moo, to the greate comforte, reioyce, and suretye of all his subiectes of this realme. And albeit that our sayde soueraigne lorde, like a good catholike kinge, for the onely discharge of his conscience, and for the welthe and suretie of this his realme, moste prudentely, moste deliberately, moste gentilly, moste meekely, and moste charitablye proceded in the inserchinge and knowinge of the validitie and invaliditie of the sayde detested and vnlawfull mariage, and therin painfully trauayled by many yeres, not onely to the greate inquietnes & trouble of his minde, but also to his inestimable costes and expenses, yet neuertheles diuers & sundry wilfull and inobedient subiectes of this realme, whose names and offences shall apere and be declared hereafter, beinge maliciously fixed in a contrary

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opinion against the pure iudgment of the kinges owne conscience, and also the determinacions of the saide sundrie vniuersities and well learned mē wel perceiuinge that they, beinge but a fewe in nombre, coulde not by their saide wilfull and peruerse opinions, grounded of malice, corrupcion, and affection, hinder ne interrupte the saide deuorse and seperacion by any lawfull meanes, did therfore, by false feined hipocrisye, dissembled sanctitye, and cloked holynes, not onely set forth and put in the handes of a great nū bre of the subiectes of thys realme, as well nobles as other spirituall and temporall persons, that they had knowledge by reuelacion from almighty god & holy sainctes, that god should be displeased with our sayd soueraigne lorde, for his said procedings in the sayd deuorse & seperacion of the sayde detested & vnlawfull mariage, but also surmised emonges other thinges, that god had reueled to an holy woman, whose name hereafter shalbe mēcioned in this acte, that in case his highnes proceded to the accomplishment of the sayd deuorse, & maried an other, that then his maiestie should not be king of this realme, by the space of one moneth after, and in the reputacion of god should not be king one day, nō nor one houre, with many other fals feined & dissimulate fables, tales, and lies by them vnlawfully and traterously practised, deuised, imagined, and conspired aswell to the blasphemy of almightie god, as againste our sayde soueraygne lorde, as by the particulers therof, hereafter more at large in this present acte, shalbe expressed. that is to saye.

¶ Fyrste one Elizabeth Barton (nowe beinge Nonne professed in the house and priory of saint Sepulcres of Canturbury) whyche longe afore she was professed nonne, dwelled with one Thomas Cobbe, in the paroche of Aldington in the countye of Kent, and hapned to be visited with sickenes, and by occasion therof brought in suche debilytee and weaknes of her brayne, bycause she coulde not eate ne drinke by a longe space, that in the vyolence of her infirmitee, she semed to be in traunses, and spake and vttered many foolishe & ydel wordes. And one Rychard mayster clerke, being person of the said paroche of Aldington, in the sayde countye of Kent, after that he hadde made to the late archbyshop of Canturbury a far larger report, concerning the hipocrisie, traunses, & speches of the sayd Elizabeth, than he could iustifie & abide by, & after that he was commaunded by the sayde archbishop to geue good atendaunce vppon her, yf she should fortune to haue any mo suche traunses and speches, & to send him knowledge therof, to the intent to maintein, vpholde, & verefie suche reporte as he had made, as well to the archbyshope aforesayde, as to other, of the wonderfull traunses and speches of the sayde nonne: falsely & craftely informed the sayde Elizabeth, that the meruaylous wordes, whiche she spake in hyr traunses, afore his ridinge to tharchbyshop aforesayde, proceded of the inspiracion of the holy goost: & that she was greatly to be blamed, if she would hide or dissemble the wonderful workes of god shewed in her: For afore this his sayde informacion & instruction, she sayd constantly, that she coulde not remembre, that she spake any suche notable wordes in her traunses, as were reported vnto her by the

laide Richarde Maſter. wherby Elizabeth, beyng in this maner of wise often times perſuaded, procured, & informed by the ſaid pſon of Aldingtō, toke boldnes & corage to forge, feine, & coūterfeit ſuch maner of traunſes & crafty ſpeches as the laide perſon of Aldington told hir that ſhe vſed in hir ſickenes afore he went to the ſayde Archbiſhop, And whan the ſayde Elizabeth had vſed this maner of falſe & fained coūterfeting for a ſeaſon, and was perfecte therin (ſo that the fame therof was greatly ſpred abrode in thoſe parties of Kēt) thē the ſaid perſō, to thintēt aforeſaid, & to thintēt the people ſhould giue more fayth & credence vnto hir, & becauſe he would haue increaſed & deuotiō of the people in coming on pilgrimage to a chapell ſet in court at ſtrete afore ſayd, within his ſaid paroch dedicate in the honour of our lady, for his owne lucre & aduauntage imagined, deuiſed, compaſſed, & declared with the ayde, helpe, and coūnſaile of one Edward Bocking monke profeſſed in the monaſterye in Chriſtes church in canturbury, & doctore in diuinite, that the ſaid Eliza. beinge in the extaſy & extremitie of hir ſickenes, in a maner diſtract in a trāſe, ſhould ſay amōges other wōderful wordes, that ſhe ſhould neuer take helth of hir body, tyll ſuche tyme as ſhe had viſited the image of our lady, being in the ſayd chapel at court at ſtrete aforeſaid: and that our ladye hadde appeared vnto hir, and ſhewed hir, that if ſhe came to the ſaide chapel at the daye to hir appoynted, ſhe ſhoulde bee reſtored to hir healthe by myracle, where in verye deede ſhe was reſtored to hir perfite health by diete and phiſicke, and by the courſe of nature, whiche expelled the matter beinge cauſe of her ſickenes, in the meane tyme whyles the ſayde perſonne of Aldyngton was with the ſayde archbiſhop, as is afore reherſed. And all be it the ſayde Elizabeth was thus naturally reſtored to hir healthe, yet ſhe beinge accuſtomed and acquainted with the maner and facion of her diſtract traunſes, by the counſayle, conſpiracy, and confederacy of the ſayde Edward bocking and Richarde Maſter, did falſly practiſe, vſe, and ſhewe vnto the people, dyuers and marualous ſodeyne alteracions of hir ſenſible partes of her bodye, craftely vtterynge in her ſayde fayned and falſe traunſes, diuers and many vertuous and holy wordes, tendynge to the rebuke of ſinne, and in reprouinge of ſuche newe opinions, as then beganne to ſpringe in this realme, whiche ſhe called herſes, as ſhe was inducted and taught by the ſaide Edwarde Bockynge, and Rycharde Maſter, vſynge all the wayes of falſe hipocriſye, to the intent the people ſhoulde geue beleife and credence vnto hyr, wherby they mighte be the ſooner brought into the deteſtable crymes of blaſphemye and idolatrye againſte almyghtie god. And the ſayde Edwarde Bockynge, beinge malicioufly fired in hys opinion againſte the kynges highnes in the ſayde deteſted matrimonye, and intendynge in hys minde afterwardes for hys parte, falſely and traiterouſelye to vſe the ſayde Elizabeth, as a diabolyke inſtrumente, to ſtirre, moue, and prouoke the people of thys realme, as well nobles as other, to mourmour and grudge againſte the maieſtie of our ſoueraygne lorde, and all his iuſte and lawfull procedinges, in the ſayde deuorſe and ſeperacion, as hereafter he did

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in verye deede, for thaccomplishing of his sayde false malicious & traitrous intentes falsely deuised and conspired with the saide Richarde that the sayde Elizabeth should shewe and manyfest her self to the people, to be an excellēt vertuous and an holy womā, and that all her wordes and dedes should appeare to the worlde, to procede of a meruailous holynes, rebukynge the cōmon sinnes and vices of the worlde, as thoughe she were taught and inspired of the holy spryte of god. And not onely moued and counsayled the sayde Elizabeth thus to vse hir selfe, surmisinge to hir that she spake suche thinges in the extasye of her sicknes, that come by the inspiracion of god, but also counsayled and procured the sayde Elizabeth to be brought & conueyed to the sayde chapel of our lady, and she therein openly in the presence of the people (that ther should be assembled by their procurementes) should vse and experiment suche like traunses and alteracions of hir face, and other the outward sensible partes of hir body, as she vsed in the extremitie and extasye of hir said sicknes. To whose counsailes and aduertisementes the sayd Elizabeth agreed. Wherupon at a daye by them appointed & agreed, the sayde Edwarde and Richarde, labored, solicited, and procured aboue the numbre of .ii. thousand persons, to repaire to the said chapel, surmisinge that the said Elizabeth (whiche as they saide) had marueilous & many visions & reuelacions of god, shoulde be broughte thither, & there receiue hir helth by miracle of our lady, whose image was in the sayd chapell. By reason of which fals feined & detestable conspyracie and hipocrisie at the day by them appoynted there assembled to the sayd chapell aboue the numbre of .ii. thousand people. At whithe daye also, the sayd Edward Bocking & Rychard Maister procured and caused the sayde Elizabeth to repaire to the sayd chapell, wher the sayd Elizabeth, albeit she at that time, & longe afore was restored to helth of hir body, & discharged of her tormentes & afflictions, which she had in the extasye of hir sicknes: yet neuertheles by the procurement & craftye counsell of the sayd Edward Bocking, & Richard Maister, did falsely feine & shewe vnto the people in the same chapell many alteracions of hir face and other outwarde sencible partes of her bodye, and falsely feined & shewed hir self in traunses, vttering wondrous wordes, as she was afore subtilly & craftely induced and taught by the sayd Richard and Edward to do. And amonges other thinges, she vttered, that it was the pleasure of god that the saide Edward Bocking shoulde be hir gostly father, & that she shoulde be a religious womanne, as she was taughte by the sayde Edwarde Bockinge, and Rychardе Maister. And within a while after the demonstracion of such fals feined and dissimuled traunses, she apeared to the people to bee sodeinly releued from hir sicknes and afflictions: by the intercession and meanes of the image of our lady beinge in the same chapell. By meanes of whiche false feined hipocrisie, dissimuled and cloked sanctitie, so conspyred and craftely imagined by the sayd Edward Bocking and Rychard Maister the said Elizabeth was brought into a meruailous fame, credite, and good opinion of a greate multitude of the people of thys realme. And to increase the

fame of the sayde fals feined hipocrisie, the sayd Elizabeth afterwardes, by the counsaile and procurement of the saide Edwarde Bockinge, entered in to the religion, & became a nonne professed in the said priori of sainct Sepulcres, to whom the sayd Edwarde Bocking had commonly his resorte, not without probable, vehement, and vyolente suspicion of incontynencie, pretending to be hir ghostly father by goddes appointment. And by conspiracie betwene hyr and him caused hir still to persiste and abide in the practysynge of hir said fals hipocrisye and dissembling traunses and raptes. And that she should surmit to the people, that whan she was in such simuled alteracion of hir sensible parties of hir body, that she was than rapt by almyghtie god from the affections of this worlde, and told by the holy spirite of god, manye thinges that shoulde folowe to the world for punishmente of sinnes of the princes and the people. And that she shoulde saye, that she was much prouoked and tempted as well to the sinne of the fleshe, as otherwyse, by hir gostly enemye the deuill, at diuers and sundry tymes, and in diuers & sundry wayes and facions, And yet neuertheles, that she by the grace of god was preserued, and stedfastlye resisted such temptacions. By occasion of whiche counsayle & procurement of the, said Edward bocking, the sayd Elizabeth, by continuaunce of time toke suche a courage vppon hir, that she falselie feined & sayde, that she had many reuelacions of almighty god, and his holy saynctes, with heuenly lyghtes: heuenly voyces, heuenly melodies and ioyes, and speciallye in a chapell of saynt Giles in the sayde nonnerie, to the whiche chapell she oftentymes resorted to receiue visions & reuelacions, as cōmaunded by god, as she falsely reported, and specially by night, saiyng that the dorture doore was made open vnto hir by godes power, vttering the same aswel to the sayde Edwarde bockinge, as to diuers other persons, By the which her false feined reuelacions & cloked hipocrisye, she was reputed amonges many people of this realme, to be a very holy woman inspired with god, where in very dede, she had neuer vision or reuelacion from god, as she hath plainly and openly confessed hir selfe. And therfore hir stealynge forthe of the dorture in the nighte (whiche was once or twise wekely) was not for spirituall busines, nor to receiue reuelacions of god, but rather for bodily cōmunicacion & pleasure with her frindes, whiche coulde not haue so good leisure & oportunitie with hir by daye. And for reformacion of hir fals feined reuelacions, the sayd Edward by cōspiracy betwene him & the said Elizab reuelled the same to the most reuerend father in god, williā late archbishop of canturbury, who by fals & vntru surmises, tales & lyes of the said Ewarde & Eliza. was allured, brought & induced to a credit therin, and made no diligēt serches for triall of their said falshodes & cōfederaciōs, but suffred & admitted the same to the blasphemy of almighty god, & to the great disceit of the prince & people of this realme. And for a perpetuall memory of ẏ said fayned & dissimuled hipocrisie & false reuelacions of the sayd Elizab. the said Edwarde Bocking, Richarde Master & one John Deryng, a monke in the said monastery of Christes church aforsayd, made writ, & caused to be wrytten

ten sundrye bokes bothe greate and small, bothe printed and written, concerninge the particularites of the sayd false & feined hipocrisie and reuelations of the sayd Elizabeth, or the defence or great praise of the same: Surmountinge and puttinge forthe the same false and feyned practyses and reuelacions of the sayd Elizabeth to be iust and true miracles, shewed by almygtye god in the fauour of the sanctitie of the said Elizabeth, where in dede they bene and were falsely deuised, compassed, conspired, written, and maynteined by the sayde Elizabeth, Edwarde Bockinge, Rychарde Master, and John Deringe, to the onely intent to bringe the sayde Elizabeth in the fame and credite of the people of thys realme, wherby the people should be the more apte and disposed by her false cloked hipocrisye and sanctitie, to committe the crimes of blasphemye and Idolatrie agaynste god, & also the sonner induced by the false reuelacions of the sayd Elizabeth to murmur, grudg, & be of euill opinio̅ against the maiestie of our said souerayne lorde, to the great perill & daunger of his most royall person. And one Edward Thwaites gent. trāslated and wrote diuers quaires and sheites of paper, concerning the sayd fals feined reuelacions & miracles of the said Elizabeth. And also one Thomas Laurence of Cāturbury, beinge regester to the archedeacon of Canturbury, at the instance and desire of the said Edward Bocking, wrote a great boke of the saide fals and feined miracles & reuelacions of the sayde Elizabeth in a faire hande, redy to be a copie to the printer, when the sayd boke should be put to stampe.

¶ Amōges which fals & feined reuelacions surmised by the said Elizabeth and put in writinges in diuers bokes by the fals conspiracye, meanes, and procuremēt of the sayd Edward Bocking, Richard Master, John Dering and other their complices, there is expressed, that the diuel should appeare to the sayde Elizabeth, in diuers factions, somtimes like a man wantōly apparailed, somtime like a birde deformed, and somtime otherwyse. And that Mary Magdalene should often apere to the said Elizabeth, & reueled to hir many reuelacions. And at one time should deliuer to hir a letter written in heauen, parte wherof was limned with golden letters, where in dede the same letters were written with the hande of a monke of sainct Augustins in Canturbury named Haukherst. ¶ There was also written and conteined emonges the said fals & feined miracles & reuelacions, that whē the kinges highnes was at Caleis in the enteruewe betwene his maiestie & the french king, & hering masse in the churche of our ladye at Caleis, that god was so displeased with the kinges highnes, that his grace saw not the time at the masse the blessed sacrament, in fourme of breede: for it was taken away from the preist (being at masse) by an angell, & ministred vnto the saide Elizabeth, then being there present & inuisible, & sodenly conueyed & rapt theus again by the power of god into the sayd nunnery, wher she is professed, with many other fals feined fables & tales deuised, conspired and defended by the sayde Elizabeth, Edwarde Bocking, and John Deringe, written as miracles in the sayde bokes for a memoriall to set forthe the fals

& feined hipocrifie and cloked ſanctitie of the ſayde Elizabeth to the people of this realme, as by the ſayde ſundrye bokes and writinges therof made, ſeene, and examined by the kinges moſt honourable counſaile more plainlie appereth. In whiche bokes be written ſuche termes and ſentences of reproch & ſclaunder agaynſt the kinges highnes, & the queene whiche were to ſhamefull to be written againſt the moſt vyle and vngracious perſons liuing, whych to heare, it would abhorre euery treue ſubiecte of this realme. And after the ſayde Elizabeth, by ſuche hir falſe and feyned hypocriſye and diſſimuled ſanctitie was brought in a great brute and fame of the people in ſundrye parties of this realme, then the ſayde Edwarde Bockinge, by procuremēt and ſecrete conſpiracie of diuers perſons vnknowen, which maligned agaynſte the procedinges of the kinges highnes, for the ſeperation and deuorſe in the ſayde deteſted and vnlawfull mariage, traiterouſly intending to put the kinges highnes in a murmur and euill opinion of hys people, for the ſame counſailed & ſtirred the ſayd Elizabeth, that ſhe ſhould aſke a petition of almightye god, to knowe whether god was diſpleaſed with the kinges highnes, for procedinge in the ſayde deuorſe and ſeperaciō of the mariage betwene his highnes, & the ſaide lady Katharine, declaringe to her many times, that he and diuers other notable lerned men of this realme, and many of the common people of the ſame, were in firme opinions, that the kinges procedinges in the ſayde deuorſe, was againſt the lawes of god. Where vpon the ſayd Elizabeth ſubtilly and craftely conceiuyng thopinion and minde of the ſayd Edward, willing to pleaſe hym, reueled and ſhewed vnto the ſaid Edward that ſhe had knowledge by reuelaciō from god, that god was highly diſpleaſed with our ſayd ſouereaine lorde for the ſame matter. And in caſe he deſiſted not from his procedinges in the ſaide deuorſe and ſeperation, but purſued the ſame, and maried againe, that then within one moneth after ſuche mariage, he ſhould no lenger be king of this realme: and in the reputacion of almightye god, ſhould not be a kinge one day nor one houre, and that he ſhoulde die a vilyanes death. Saiynge farther, that ther was a roote with .iii. branches, and tyll they were plucked vp, it ſhoulde neuer be mery in Englande, enterpretynge the roote, to bee the late lorde Cardinall, & the firſte branche to be the kinge our ſouereigne lorde, the ſeconde the Duke of Norff. and the thyrde the Duke of Suff. Which falſe feined reuelacions, by the miſcheuous and malicious counſaile and conſpiracie of the ſayd Edwarde Bockinge with the ſayd Elizabeth, were written and expreſſed in the ſayd bokes and volumes, conteining the falſe & feyned reuelacions & myracles of the ſaid Elizabeth, for a perpetuall memory therof, to thutter reproche & perill of diſtruction of the kinges perſon, his honour, fame, and name, and priuily and ſecretely ſet forth by the ſayde Elizabeth, Edwarde Bocking, John Deringe, and Richard Maſter generally to diuers and many of the kinges ſubiectes, and ſpecially as to electe perſons, and to the reuerende father, John byſhop of Rocheſter, and John Adeſon clerke, chapleine to the ſame byſhop, & to one Henry Golde

prieſt,

preist, bacheler of diuinitie, to Hugh Riche fryere obseruant, and late wardeyne of the fryers obseruantes of Canturbury, whiche beare malyce and malignitie to all the kinges procedinges in the sayd deuorse and seperacion because it was contrarye to their peruerse and frowarde opinyons, intending by colour of the sayd false and feyned hipocrisy and reuelacions of the sayde Elizabeth, not onely to let the sayde deuorce and seperacion, but also to bringe and set forthe secretely in the heads of the people of this realme, as well nobles as other, that all the kinges actes and procedinges in the same, were against holy scriptures and the pleasure of almighty god: wher by the kinges highnes shoulde be broughte in a grudge and euill opinyon of hys people. And the sayde John bishoppe of Rochester, Henry Golde: Hugh Riche, Richarde Risby, Richarde Master, John Dering, at sondrye and seuerall times and places spake with the sayde Elizabeth, & tooke relacion of her of the sayde false and feined reuelacions, whiche she feyned that she had of almightye god, as well concerninge the kinges highnes as other, after the fourme and termes aboue specified, And hauinge knowledge therof, the sayd Hugh Riche, Richarde Risby, and Henry golde clerke gaue suche firme and constant credit therunto, that they traiterously concelled it from the kinges highnes, and traytorously beleeued in theyr hartes, that the kinge our soueraygne lord, after his late mariage solempnised betweene his highnes and his sayde most deare and entierly beloued wife queene Anne, was no longer rightfull king of this realme, in the reputacion of almightye god, wherby in their hartes and willes they traytrously withdrewe from his highnes their naturall duetyes of obedience: And secretely taught and moued other persons (to whom they reueled the saide false and feyned reuelacions) that they ought and myght lawfully do in the same wise: and practised the sayde matters againste the kinges maiestye, falsely, maliciously, and traiterously at sondry places and times with the fathers and nonnes of Sion, and diuers monkes of the Charter house of London and Shene, and with diuers freres obseruantes of the places of Richemont and, Grenwiche and Canturbury, and to diuers others both spirituall and temporall persons in great numbre, to the intent to sow a secrete murmur and grudge in the hartes of the kinges subiectes, agaynste the maiestie of our sayd soueraigne lorde, & all his procedinges in the sayde deuorse and seperacion, intendyng therby to make suche a diuision and rebellyng in this realme, amonges the kinges subiectes, wherby the kynges highnes should not onely haue bene put to perill of his lyfe, but also in ieoperdy to be depriued from his crowne and dignitie royall.

¶ And for a more playne and perticuler declaracion of the malicious and traitrous intentes of the sayd Elizabeth, Edward Bocking, John Dering Hugh Riche, Richard Risby, and Henry Golde, they concluded by a confederacie amonge them selues, eche with other, to set forthe in sermons & prechinges the sayd reuelacions to the people of thys realme, against the kinges maiestie, whan so euer it should please the sayde Elizabeth to appoynt

them

them the time, when they ſhould ſo do: and agreed with eche other ſecretly and ſet forthe the ſayde falſe and feined reuelacions to their acqueintaunce and frendes in this realme, intendyng to make a great multitude of people of this realme, by their ſecrete conſpiracies, in an aptnes to receiue & take ſuch their ſermons and preachinges, whiche they intended to make, as is a foreſayd, cõcerning the premiſſes, treaterouſly intending therby to put our ſaid ſoueraygne lorde not onely in the peril of his life, but alſo in the ieopardie of loſſe and depriuacion of his crowne and dignitie royall of this realme from him and hys lawfull ſucceſſion for euer. And in accompliſhinge theyr falſe traiterous and malicious intentes agaynſt our ſaide ſoueraigne lorde they cauſed the ſayd Elizabeth, at two tymes ſecretely to declare the ſayde falſe and feined reuelacions to.ii. of the popes oratours and ambaſſadours at the cities of Canturbury and London. At whiche time the ſayde Henry Golde toke vpon him to be interpretatour therof, betwene the ſayde Elizabeth, and one of the ſayde oratours named Antony Pulleon: and thinterpretatour to thother oratour named Silueſter, was the forſaid Laurence of Canturbury, to the intente the kinges highnes, and all his procedinges in the ſayd deuorſe and ſeperacion ſhould be brought into an euyll opinyon wyth the pope and other outwarde princes and potentates: and the ſayde Hugh Ryche actually trauayled to ſundry places in thys realme, and made ſecrete relacion of the premiſſes concerninge the kinges highnes, to diuers lordes bothe ſpiritual and temporall, and diuers other perſons lay and lerned, ſecular and religious. And the ſayde Henry Golde ouer thys, actually trauayled and made relacion therof to the ſayde ladye Katharine princes dowager, to animate her to make commotion in this realme, agaynſt our ſayd ſouerayne lorde, ſurmiſynge that the ſayd Elizabeth ſhould haue by reuelacyon of god, that the ſayd lady Katharine ſhould proſper and do wel and that her iſſue the lady Mary the kynges daughter, ſhould proſper and reygne in thys realme, and haue manye frendes to ſuſteine and mainteine her: and the ſayde Elyzabeth and Edwarde Bockinge, John Deringe & Rycharde Maſter likewyſe actually trauayled to diuers places in this realme, and made ſecrete relacyons of the ſayd falſe feyned hipocriſye and reuelacyons of the ſayd Elyzabeth, & gaue knowledge herof to dyuers other ſondrye perſons of thys realme.

All whyche conſpyracyes & confederacyes of the ſayde Elyzabeth. and other her complyces, aboue mencioned, was traterouſly and malicyouſely deuyſed & practiſed by the ſayd Elyzabeth, Edwarde Bockinge, John Deryng, Rycharde Maſter, Henry Golde, Hughe Ryche, & Rycharde Riſby, to the intent traiterouſly to diſtroy our ſayd ſoueraigne lord, and to depriue him and his lawfull ſucceſſion from the crowne and dignitie royall of thys realme, whiche matter hath bene practiſed and imagined amonges them for the ſpace of many yeres: wherof the whole circumſtance wer very long to be written in this acte. And the ſayde John Fiſher byſhop of Rocheſter and one Thomas Golde gentyman, and the ſayde Thomas Laurence,

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Edwarde Thwaites, and John Adeson chaplein to the sayd John bishop of Rochester, hauinge knowledge of the false feined and dissymuled reuelacions, traiterously conspired agaynste our sayde soueraygne lorde (as is aforesayde) dyd neuer the les make concelmente thereof, and vttered not the same to our sayde soueraygne, nor anye hys honourable counsel, agaynste their duties and allegeance in that behalfe.

¶ And furthermore the sayde Thomas Golde, for the accomplyshemente of his saide moste traiterous intente, hath of late bene a messenger from the said Elyzabeth, whyles she was in warde in the towre of London for the saide moste false and traitrous offences, by her and her sayd complyces committed and done (be they beynge at lybertie) by hys message hath comforted diuers others to stande styffely by her reuelacions, that they were of god: not withstandyng that she had confessed al her sayd falshood before diuers of the kynges counsaillours, and that they were manyfestly proued, founde, and tryed moste false and vntrue: whiche thynge he did onely to raise and put sedition and murmur in the people agaynste the kinges highenes, his crowne and dignitie royall. And one Thomas Abel clerke, being of the confederacye aforesayd, and hauing suche firme and constante credit to the sayd fals and feyned reuelacions and miracles of the said nunne, not onely caused to be printed and sette forthe, in this realme diuers bookes agaynste the saide deuorce and seperacion: to the disclaunder of our sayde soueraygne lorde, but also animated the sayd ladye Katherine obstinately to persiste in her wilfull opinion agaynste the same deuorce and seperacion: and after the sayde deuorse lawfully had, to vsurpe and take vpon her styll to be queene, and procured diuers writinges to be made by her, by the name of queene: and also procured and abetted the seruantes of the saide ladye Katharine against the kynges expresse commaundement and proclamation to name, call, accepte, and repute the sayde ladye Katharine for queene of this realme: to the intent to make a common diuision and rebellion in this realme, to the great perill and daunger of our sayd soueraygne lorde.

¶ In consideracion of all which premisses, and for as muche as the sayde false feyned and dissimuled hipocrysye, cloked sanctitie, reuelacions, and feyned miracles, of the sayde Elizabethe is playnely confessed before the kinges moste honourable counsayle by the sayd offendours, and hath bene set forth in thys realme, not onely to the blasphemy of almyghty god whereby a greate multitude of people of this realme, were not onely induced to idolatrye, but also brought in a murmur and grudge amonges them selues, to the great perill of the distruction of our sayd soueraygne lorde & hys succession, and to the ieoperdie of a greate common rebellion, and insurrection in this realme, to the vtter dissolacion thereof, yf by the goodnes of almightye god, and by the greate trauayle of the kinges highnes, and hys nobles and counsaylours, by greate serchis and examinacions, it had not bene reueled and knowen.

¶ Be it therfore enacted, by authoritie of thys presente parlyamente, that the

the sayde Elizabeth Barton, Rycharde Master, Edwarde Bockynge, John Deringe, Hugh Rych, Richarde Risby, and Henry Golde, for theyr seuerall offences aboue rehersed, by them recognised and confessed, shall be conuicte and attainted of high treason, and shall suffre suche execution and paines of deathe as in cases of highe treason hath bene accustomed, and shall lose and forfayte to our sayde souerayngne lorde, and his heyres and successours for euer, all suche landes, tenementes, and hereditamentes, as they or anye of them had of estate of inheritaunce, in vse or possession at the xx. daye of October last past, or anye tyme sithen: & also all suche their goodes and cattalles as they or anye other to their vse had the xvi. daye of Januarye laste paste, or anye tyme sithen. And that also all suche benefices and spirituall promocion, whiche the sayde Rycharde Master, & Henry Golde or anye of them had at the xvi. day of Januarye, or anye tyme sithen, shall from the sayde xvi. daye of Januarie be voyde, as though the same Rycharde and Henry were dead of their naturall deathes. And that the sayde Jhon Bilhoppe of Rochester, Thomas Golde, Thomas Laurence, Edwarde Thwaites, John Adeson, and Thomas Abell, for their sayde seuerall offences shalbe conuicte and atteinted of mesprysion and concelymente of treason, as persons that haue geuen suche credit, counsaile, and constant beliefe to the sayde principall offendours: wherby they haue taken courage and boldnes to committe their sayde detestable treasons and offences: and that the sayde John bilhop of Rochester, Thomas Golde, Thomas Laurence, Edwarde Thwaites, John Adeson, and Thomas Abell for theyr sayde seueralle offences by them committed, shall suffre imprisonmente of their bodyes at the kinges will, and lose and forfayte to the kinges highnes all their goodes, cattalles, and dettes, whyche they or any persons to their vses, or by their deliuery had the sayde xvi. daye of January, or any time sithen the sayde day. And that suche benefices and spirituall promocions as the sayde John Adeson, and Thomas Abell, or anye of them had the sayde xvi. daye of Januarye, shall from the twentye daye of Marche, the yere of our lorde. M.D.XXXIII. be voyde in the lawe, by aucthoritye of thys acte, as yf the sayde John Adeson and Thomas Abell were dead of theyr naturall deathes.

¶ And be it further enacted by auctho̅ritie aforesayde, that proclamacion shalbe made vnder the kinges greate seale in all shyres, cities, boroughes, & townes corporate in thys realme, as well within libertie as without, conteininge the tenoure of this acte, to the entente that the cloked, faile, and dissimulate offences of the offendours may be knowen, & the people therby to take an example of drede to offende in lyke cases hereafter, and that in euerye of the sayde proclamacions shall also be added and conteyned, that euery suche person and persones, whiche hath in their custody and kepinge any bokes, scrolles, or writinges conteyninge any the fals feyned reuelacions and dissimuled miracles of the sayde Elizabeth, or anye of them, shall within .xl. dayes nexte after suche proclamacions bringe or cause to be

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brought the sayd bookes, scrolles, and wrytinges vnto the lord Chauncellour of Englande, lorde treasourer, lorde presydente of the kinges moofte honorable counsayle, and lorde pryuye seale, or to one of them, vppon paine of imprysonment, and fyne makinge to the kyng our soueraigne lord. And yf anye person or persones after suche proclamacions hadde and made accordynge as is aboue sayd, knowingly and willingly doe reteine and kepe any suche bookes, escrolles or wrytinges, and cause them not to be delyuered accordynge to the tenour of the sayde proclamacion aboue rehersed: that then any person offendynge the same, and beinge therof by due examinacion conuicte before anye of the kinges counsayle, shall suffre imprisonmente, and make fyne to the kynge, by the dyscreacion of the kinges counsayle, accordyng to the merytes of hys offence.

¶ And that albeit a greate numbre & multitude of other the kinges subiectes of this realme, as well spirituall as temporall, whose names be not aboue specially mencioned, by their greate negligences and folyes, inclyned to newe fangilnes, haue spoken wyth the same Elizabeth, and other her cõplyces and conspiratours aboue specified, and haue had relacion and knowledge to them geuen in and vppon the feined and false reuelations and myracles aboue rehersed, as well concerninge our sayde soueraygne lorde as other wyse: and haue made concelment thereof, not vtterynge the same vnto the kinges maiestie, nor to anye hys honourable counsayle, as to the dueties of true liege men appertayneth in that behalfe, whereby they worthely haue deserued to suffre suche punishmente, paines, and losses as persones conceilynge treasons and other highe offences, touchynge the honour and suretye of our saide soueraygne lorde owen of good reason equitie and lawe to do. ¶ Yet neuer the lesse the kynges royall maiestie, at the humble suite and contemplacion of his moste deere, entiere, and well beloued wife queene Anne, of hys moste gracious benignitye is pleased and contented, that it be enacted by aucthoritye of this present parlyament, that all and euery other his subiectes not aboue conuicted and atteinted by thys acte, shall be released, acquited, and clerely pardoned agaynste his hyghenesse, hys heyres, and successours for euer, of and for all maner of conceilmentes, offences, trespaces, communicacions, mesprisions, contemptes, & misdemeanours, whiche they or anye of them before the twentye daye of October laste paste committed or did concernynge the sayde false and feyned miracles and reuelations of the sayde Elizabeth, or anye parte thereof and of all circumstances, and demeanours touchinge the same, so that non of hys saide subiectes, other then be aboue conuicted by this acte, shall hereafter by any meanes be impeached, challenged, or troubled by our sayde soueraygne lorde, his heires, or successours concernynge the premisses or any parte or circumstaunce therof: but shall be by this presente acte pardoned & released therof for euer.

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¶ An acte limitting what nombre of shepe men shall kepe, occupie, and haue in their owne possession at one time. cap. xiii.

FOr as muche as diuers and sundrie persons of the kinges subiectes of this realme, to whom god of his goodnes hath disposed great plenty of mouable substance, now of late within fewe yeres haue daily studied, practised, & inuented wayes and meanes how they might accumulate and gather together into fewe handes as well great multitude of fermes, as greate plentie of cattall, and in especiall shepe, puttinge suche landes as they can get, to pasture, and not to tyllage: wherby they haue not onely pulled downe churches & townes and inhansed the olde rates of the rentes of the possessyons of thys realme, or els broughte it to suche excessiue fynes, that no poore man is able to medel with it, but also haue raysed and enhaunsed the prices of all maner of corne, cattell, wulle, pygges, geese, hennes, chekins, egges, and suche other almoste double aboue the prices, whiche haue bene accustomed: By reason wherof a maruaylous multitude and nombre of the people of this realme be not able to prouide meate, drinke, and clothes necessarie for them selues their wifes and children, but be so discoraged with miserye, and pouertye, that they fall dayly to theft, robberye, and other inconuenience, or pitifully die for hunger & colde. And as it is thought by the kinges most humble and louynge subiectes, one of the greatest occasions, that moueth and prouoketh those gredy and couetous people so to accumulate & kepe in their handes suche greate portions and parties of the groundes and landes of thys realme from the occupienge of the poore husband men, and so to vse it in pasture and not in tyllage, is onely the greate profyt that cometh of shepe, whyche nowe be come into a fewe persons handes of thys realme, in respect of the whole nombre of the kynges subiectes, that somme haue xxiiii. thousande, some. xx. thousande, some .x. thousande, some .vi. thousande, some .v. thousande, and some more and some lesse, by the whyche, a good shepe for vitaile, that was accustomed to be solde for .ii. s, iiii. d. or iii. s. at the moste, is nowe solde for .vi. s. or .v. or. iiii. s. at the leaste: And a stone of clothinge wulle, that in some shire of thys realme was accustomed to be solde for .xviii. d. or .xx. d. is nowe solde for .iiii. s. or .iii. s. iiii. d. at the leste: & in some countryes wher it hath ben sold for. ii. s. iiii. d. or. ii. s. viii, d or. iii. s. at the most: it is nowe sold for. v. s. or. iiii. s. viii. d. at the leaste. And so arrayed in euery parte of thys realme. Whiche thinges thus vsed, be principally to the highe displeasure of almighty god, to the decay of the hospitalite of this realme, to the diminishinge of the kinges people, and to the let of the clothmakinge, wherby many poore people hath bene accustomed to be set on worke: and in conclusion, yf remedye be not founde, it may turne to the vtter distruction and dissolacion of thys realme, whyche god defende. It may therfore please the kynges highnes, of hys moste gracious & godly disposicion, and the lordes spirituall and temporall of theyr goodnes and charitie

charitie, with the assent of the commons in this present parliament assembled, to ordeine and enacte, by authoritie of the same, that no personne nor persones from the feaste of saincte Michaell the archangell, whyche shalbe in the yere of our lorde god .1535. shall kepe, occuppe, or haue in his possession in his owne proper landes, nor in the possession, landes, nor groundes of anye other, whiche he shall haue or occuppe in ferme, nor otherwyse, haue of his owne proper cattell, in ble, possession, or propertie by anye maner of meanes, fraude, craste, or coueyn, aboue the numbre of two thousande shepe at one time, within anye parte of this realme, of all sortes and kindes, vppon peyne to lose and forfayte, for euerye shepe that anye personne or persones shall haue or kepe aboue the numbre ymitted by thys acte .ii.s.iii.d. The one halfe to the kinge our souereigne lorde, & the other halfe to suche person, as will sue for the same, by originall writte of dette, bill, playnte, or information in anye courte of recorde, in whyche sute the defendant shall not wage his lawe, nor haue anye essoyne or protection allowed.

¶ Prouided alwaye, that lambes shall not be accompted of the numbre of shepe prohibited by thys acte, so longe as they be vnder the age of a yeare and not aboue.

¶ Prouided also, that yf any person, hauinge shepe of hys owne, happen to be made executor, or to be administratour to any person, which had shepe at his death, or happen to be maried to any person, whiche shall happen to haue shepe at the tyme of the mariage: by reason wherof the personne, so beinge executour or administratour, or beinge so maried, shall happen by suche meanes to be aduanced, and haue aboue the sayde numbre of two thousande, that then in euery such case, the person so aduaunced to lose no penaltie, for hauinge aboue the numbre of two thousande shepe by suche meanes, so that within one yere next after such aduauncement, the person so aduaunced from tyme to tyme, as often as any suche case shall happen, doe put to sale, or otherwise dispose so many of the sayde shepe, so to hym aduanced, or els of hys owne shepe, that he had before, so that aboue one yeare he shall not kepe, haue, or occuppe by anye suche meanes, or otherwyse by anye fraude or coueyn, any more numbre of them, then is before limytted by this acte, vpon the peyne before rehersed.

¶ Prouided also, that if any person by hys laste will and testament, geue to any childe within age, any numbre of shepe, and appoynte them by his sayde will, to be kepte by hys executours, or by anye other personne, vnto suche tyme as the sayde childe shall come to a certaine age ymitted by hys will, that then in euery suche case, after the death of the testatour, the said shepe so beinge in the possession and occupacion of the executours, or of any other personne, to the ble of anye suche childe within age, for that tyme onely that the sayd childe shalbe within the age, that he shalbe ymitted to haue the sayde shepe, by the wille of the testatour, shall not be accompted againste the sayde executours, nor anye person so hauynge the sayde shepe,

for the intent aforesayd any of the noumbre of the shepe prohibited by thys acte: any thing in this acte to the contrary therof not withstandinge.

¶ And it is further enacted, that the Justices of the peace of euerye shyre, shall haue power and auctoritie to enquire of the offendours of this acte, as well by the othes of twelue men, as by informacion of anye of the kinges subiectes, and to make suche lyke processe vppon euery such presētment or informacion concerninge thys acte as they vsen commonly to doe vpon presentmentes before them of trespas: And that no person being conuict by confession or otherwise that he hath done or attempted contrary to this acte, shall be put to any lesse fine than after the rates of the forfaitures afore limitted by this acte.

¶ Prouided alwayes that no person shall be put to any answere or losse of any forfaiture by vertue of this acte, at the sute of any the kinges subiects, by any orygynall writt of dette, bill, playnt, or informacion, except the sute be commensed within one yere next after the offence done or cōmitted contrary to this act. Nor that any persō shal be put to answer, nor to any losse of any forfaiture by vertue of this acte, by reasō of any presentmēt, action, or informacion at the kinges sute, excepte the sayde presentmente, action, or informacion be had & made for the king within thyee yeres nexte after the offence done or committed.

¶ Prouided alwaye that all and euerye personne or personnes, beynge the kinges tēporall subiectes of this realme, & borne vnder his obeysance, which at this present tyme, or at any time hereafter shall haue and be seased of inheritaunce in possession or in vse, or that nowe hath, or hereafter shall haue iuncture in vse or in possession, or be or shalbe tenant in dower, or by the curtesye of Englande, of or in anye manours, landes, tenementes, pastures, fedinges, or liberties of foldage within any parte of this realme of Englande, wales or the marches of the same, that euery suche person and persons, hauinge anye such possession to hys owne vse, and euery such person and persons, to whose vse anye other person or persons now is, or be, or hereafter shalbe seised of any suche estate, as is before rehersed, may at all times herafter haue, enioy, kepe, & mainteine vpon the same their owne demein landes, & all other their pastures, fedinges, & foldcourses, which they so haue, ad many their own shepe and lambes in numbre to their proper vse, profite, & behoue as they or any of them of right had, or lawfully might haue hadde and kepte vppon the same, or vppon anye parte therof, at anye time before the makinge of this present acte, This acte, or any thinge therin contained or specified to the contrary in any wise not withstandinge.

¶ And ouer that be it enacted by the auctoritie aforesayd, that in case any suche person or persons, hauinge any suche estate in vse or in possession of or in any maner landes, tenements, pastures, fedinges, or lyberties of fold courses as is before expressed, haue or doe kepe vpon the same their possessions the numbre of two thousande shepe or aboue, the same person or persons so hauing the numbre of two thousand shepe or aboue, shal not in any

wise

wise kepe, susteine, or haue any sheepe aboue or beside the sayde numbre of two thousande, vpon any landes, pastures, or fedinges, whiche the same persone or persones haue, or hereafter shall haue, or take one ferme, or otherwise, vppon suche lyke peynes and forfaytures for the same, as be lymitted in the sayde acte, that is to saye, for euery shepe ouer and aboue the sayde numbre of two thousand, thre shillinges foure pence. And in case the sayde demeine landes, tenementes, pastures fedinges, and lybertyes of foldecourses, of any person or persons before rehersed, suffice not for the fedinge, pasturinge, and kepinge of two thousande shepe, as is beforesaide, that then euery suche person shall or may haue, susteine, or feede vppon his sayd demeine landes, and vpon hys ferme holdes, whiche he lawfully may haue, to the sayde numbre of two thousande shepe, and not aboue, vppon peine of forfayture for euery shepe, aboue that numbre. iii s. iiii. d.

¶ Prouided alway and be it enacted, that it shalbe laufull to euery person or persones within this realme, kepinge a housholde, to haue from time to tyme suche conuenient numbre of shepe, ouer and aboue the numbre expressed in this acte, as shalbe necessarye for the onely expenses of his house holde, to be prouided, kepte, and fedde in and vppon his owne landes or other landes, such as he laufully can and may haue, or prouide for, on ferme or otherwise: Any thinge in this present acte conteined to the contrarye not withstandinge. So that the same housholder at no one time shall haue or kepe for the expences of hys householde, or by collour of the same, ouer and aboue the noumbre to hym limitted by thys acte, any numbre of shepe mo then shall suffice for the onely expenses of his householde for one yeare, without fraude or couin, anye thinge in this present acte mencioned or expressed to the contrary not withstandinge.

¶ Be it also further enacted by thauctthoritie aforesaide, that no maner person or persōs, of what degre so euer he or they be, being lord or lords, owner or owners, fermer or fermers, of or in ani libertie of foldcourses, within any towne, tithinge, vyllage, or hamlette within anye of the counties of Norfolke and Suffolke from and after the feaste of the natiuitye of our lorde god nexte cumminge, shall take in ferme for terme of yeares, or otherwyse any quillettes of landes or pastures. that is to saye, any numbre of acres of lande or pasture, apperteynynge to anye other persone or persones, lienge and beinge within the lymytte, extente, or precincte of the sayd lybertye of the sayde fouldecourses: but that they shall permitte and suffre the sayde persones, hauinge or beinge for the time owner or owners, lesse or lessees of the sayde quillettes, to manure and pasture the sayde quillettes. And also to suffre the shepe of the sayde owner or owners, fermer or fermers of the sayde quillettes, after the rate of the same quillettes to go with the flocke of the owner, fermer, or occupyer of the sayde lybertye or libertyes of the sayde fouldecourses, payenge the custumarye charges for the kepinge and fedinge of the same, after the rate and vse of the countreye there commonly vsed, withoute anye interrupcion therein to be made by the sayde owner

ner or owners, fermer or fermers, or occupiers of the sayde liberties, vpon peine of forfayture for euerie tyme that anye such personne, haupnge any suche quillet that shalbe so letted or disturbed of fedinge, keeppnge, or pasturinge anye of hys sheepe so to be fedde and kepte after the rate of hys sayde quyllet, for euery such shepe thre shillinges. iiii. d.

¶ Prouided alway that this act or bꝛach cõcerning quilletes, or any thing therin conteined, shall not in any wise be auayleable to any tenant, owner or occupier of any suche quyllett or quillettis, to clayme, haue, or vse hereafter anye suche pasture or fedinge of hys shepe, or wyth anye suche foldecourses, but onely where the tenantes, owners, and occuppyers of any such quillettes haue had or mought haue had here to fore of ryghte and dutye vsed to haue pasture and feedinge in the sayde foldecourses, by reason of their tenures and occupacions of the same quillett and quillettes, and none other wise. And where they haue not vsed, nor oughte to haue anye shepe fedde or kept within any suche foldecourses, by reason of the sayde tenures that the owners or occuppyers of such foldcourses, may take such quylettes, lyinge within their foludecourses, in ferme agreeinge with the owners or occupiers of the sayde quilletes for the same.

¶ And for as muche as the numbꝛe of the .C. of shepe in euerye countrey be not lyke, in some countrey to the great .C. where .vi. scoꝛe is accompted for the .C. and some countrey but onely .v. scoꝛe, it is efte declared by thys pꝛesente acte, that the numbꝛe of two thousande sheepe, lymitted to euery person by thys acte, shalbe accompted .x.c. for euerye thousande, after the numbꝛe of the great hundꝛed, and not after the lesse c. so that euery thousande shall conteine. xii. c. after the lesse numbꝛe of the hundꝛed.

¶ It is also further pꝛouided by the aucthoꝛitie afoꝛesayd that lambes vnder the age of one hole yere, and as muche as shall be from the time of the fallinge of them vnto the feaste of the natiuitie of sayncte John Baptiste in any yere to come, shall not be adiudged, ne taken for shepe pꝛohibyted by this estatute: any thing in this acte to the contrary not withstandinge.

¶ It is also further enacted by aucthoꝛitie afoꝛesaid, that no maner person after the sayd feast of the natiuitie of our loꝛd, shal receiue and take in ferme for terme of lyfe, yeres, or will by endenture, coppe of courte rolle, or other wise, any mo houses & tenementes of husbandꝛye, wherunto anye landes are belonginge, in towne, village, hamlet, or tithinge within this realme, aboue the numbꝛe of two suche holdes or tenementes. And that no maner persõ shall haue or occupie any such holdes, so newely taken to the numbꝛe of two, as is befoꝛe expꝛessed, except he or they be dwellinge wythin the same parishes, where such holdes be, vpon the peyne of foꝛfaiture for eurye weke, that he or they shall haue occupie, or take any pꝛofites of such holdes contrarye to this acte. iii. s iiii. d. The one moitie of whiche foꝛfaiture to be to the kinge our soueraygne loꝛde, and the other moitie to the partye that wille sue for the same in anye of the kinges courtes, by byll, playnte, infoꝛmacion, or other wyse within one yere next after suche contempte and of-

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sente committed and done, in the whiche none essoin, protection, ne wager of lawe shalbe admitted or allowed.

¶It is also further enacted by auctholitie afore sayde, that the statutes made the fourthe yere of the noble prince kinge Henry the. viii, And in the vii. yere of the reigne of our soueraygne lorde the kinge that nowe is, conterninge the decaye of townes, and mayntenaunce of tyllage and husbandrye, shall be good and effectuall in euery thinge accordinge to the true purport and intent of the same, any thing in this present acte to the contrarie not withstanding.

¶Prouided also that it may be lawfull to all spirituall persones and euery of them, to kepe suche and as many shepe vppon their owne landes, and after suche forme and maner and none otherwise, as they moughte haue done afore the making of this acte: anye thinge mencioned in the same to the contrary not withstandinge.

¶An acte for punishment of Heresie. Ca. xiiii.

IN moste humble wise lamentablye sheweth vnto your highnes your most humble louing & obedient subiectes, the comons of this your realme, that where the clergy of the same, of the seconde yeare of kinge Henry the. iiii. one of your moste noble progenitours, vppon their suggistion did impetrate and obteine by auctholitie of parliament, holden in the sayd seconde yeare: that it shoulde be lefull for euery ordenarye to conuent, areste, and imprison any person or persons, whom they thought defamed or suspecte of herisye, and them to kepe in their prisons tyll they were purged therof, or abiured, or committed to laye power to be burned, after the determination of the holy churche & canonicall sanctions, as in an acte made at the parliament holden in the sayde seconde yeare of kinge Henry the. iiii. amonges other thinges more at large dothe appere: For as muche as the sayde acte dothe not in any parte thereof declare anye certayne cases of heresie, contrary to the determynacion of holy scripture, or the canonicall sanctions therin expressed, whereby your most louing & obedient subiectes mought be learned to eschewe the daungers and peines in the sayd acte comprised, and to abhorre and detest that foule & detestable crime of heresie. And also bicause those wordes Canonicall sanctions, and such other like conteined in the said act, are so general, that vneth the most expert & best lerned man of this your realme, diligently lieng in wayte vpon him selfe, can eschewe and auoyde the penaltye & daungers of the same acte & canonicall sanctions, if he should be examined vpon such captious interrogatories, as is & hath bene accustomed to be ministred by the ordinaries of this realme, in cases where they will suspect any person or persons of heresie. And ouer this for as much as it standeth not with the right order of Justice nor good equitie, that any person should be

conuicte, and put to the losse of his lyfe, good name, or goodes, onles it were by due accusacion and witnesse, or by presentment, verdict, confession or proces of outlawrye: and also by the lawes of your realme, for treasons committed to the peril of your most royal maiestie, vpon whose suretie dependeth the hole welthe of thys realme, no personne can ne maye be putte to death but by presentment, verdict, confession or proces of outlawrye, as is aforesayd. Wherfore it is not reasonable, that any ordinarie by any suspection conceiued of hys own fantasie, without due accusacion or presentment, shoulde put anye subiecte of this realme in the infamie and sclaunder of heresie, to the perill of lyfe, losse of name and goodes. And that also there be many heresies & peines, & punishment for heresies declared, & ordeyned in & by the saide canonical sanctions, & by the lawes and ordinaunces made by the popes or bysshops of Rome, and by their auctorities, for holdynge, doynge, preachinge, or speakinge of thinges contrarye to the sayde canonical Sanctions, lawes, and ordynaunces, which be but humaine, beinge mere repugnante and contrarious to the prerogatiue of your imperiall crowne, regall iurisdiction, lawes, statutes, and ordenances of thys your realme: By reason wherof your people of the same, obseruynge, mayntenynge, defendinge, and due executinge of your sayde lawes, statutes, and prerogatiue royalle, by authoritie of that acte, made in the sayd second yere of kinge Henry the .iiii. may be brought into sclaunder of heresye, to their great infamie and daunger, and perill of their liues.

¶ In consideracion wherof it may please your highnes, by the assente of your lordes spirituall and temporall and the commons in this present parliament assembled, and by auctoritie of the same, to adnulle, abrogate, frustrate, and make voide the sayd acte, made in the sayd second yere of kinge Henry the .iiii. and euery thinge therin conteyned. And neuertheles for as muche as the moste foule and detestable crime of heresie, shoulde not hereafter growe and increase, but vtterly be abhorred, detested, and eradicate, ne that any heretikes shuld be fauored, but that they should haue condign & sufficient punishment. And for the represse of heretikes, and such erronious opinions in time comminge be it established, ordeined, and enacted, by the auctoritie of this present parliamente, that the statute made in the fifthe yere of your noble progenitour kinge Richarde the seconde, and the statute made int the seconde yere of kinge Henry the .v concernynge punishement and reformacion of heretikes and lollardes, and euery prouision there in conteined, not beinge repugnant to this acte: shalbe and stande in their force, strength, and effect. ¶ Prouided alwaies, and be it enacted for spedy presentment to be had of heresies, that suche person & persones, as haue in vse or in possession to their own vse, in fee simple, fee tayle, for terme of their owne liues, or of any other persons lyfe, landes & tenementes, to the clere yerely value of .xl.s. shalbe enpaneled, and haue power and auctoritie to inquire and present heresies. And that euery presentment made by such persons shalbe as good and effectuall and be put in execucion to all intentens,

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in like maner and fourme as if euery the preſentours had had landes and tenementes, to the yerely value of a hundred ſhillinges, accordyng to the tenour of this acte of kinge Henry the.v. any thinge in the ſayde acte to the contrary therof not withſtanding.

¶ Prouided alſo and be it enacted by aucthoritie aforeſaid, that ſhiriffes in their turnes, and all other hauinge turnes, and ſtewardes in their leetes, rapes, and wapentakes, ſhall haue power and aucthoritie to inquire of heretikes like as they inquire of common anoyſances, and that euery preſentment made in anye turne, leete, rape, or wapentake concerninge hereſies, ſhall be certified to the ordinarye in ſuche maner and fourme as preſentmentes afore any Juſtice aſſygned by the ſayde acte of kynge Henrie the.v. are limytted and appoynted by the ſame act to be certified: And like proces ſhall be had, made, and executed, vppon euery ſuche preſentment to be made in anye turne, leete, rape, or wapentake as is limitted in the ſayde acte of king Henry the v vppon preſentmentes taken afore the Juſtices aſſigned by the ſame acte to inquire of hereſies.

¶ Prouided alway and be it enacted, that no maner of licence or aucthoritie, or other thinge or thinges be hereafter had or obteyned of the biſhop of Rome, otherwiſe called the pope, to preache in any parte of this realme, or to do any thing in the ſame contrarie to the lawes and ſtatutes of thys realme, or the kinges prerogatiue royall, vppon the peynes limitted in the ſayd lawes and ſtatutes of thys realme: any thing conteined in the preamble of the ſayd eſtatute of king Richarde the ſecond, or in any the ſtatutes before reherſed, or in any ſtatutes of thys realme to the contrary therof not withſtanding.

¶ And be it further enacted by the aucthoritie aforeſayd, that euery perſon and perſons being preſented or indited of any hereſie, or duly accuſed or detected therof by two lawfull witneſſes at the leaſte, to anye ordinaryes of thys realme, hauinge power to examine hereſies, ſhall and may after euery ſuch accuſacion or preſentment, & non otherwiſe, nor by any other meanes be cited, conuented, arreſted, taken, or apprehended by any the ſayde ordinaries or any other the kinges miniſters and ſubiectes who ſo euer. And after they ſhalbe ſo taken and apprehended, ſhalbe committed to the ordinaryes to aunſwer in open courte and in all open place to their ſuche accuſacion and preſentmentes. And if they ſhall happen to be lawfully conuicte of the hereſie, wherof they are ſo accuſed or preſented: that then they ſhall abiure if they will refuſe and renounce their ſayde hereſies, wherof they ſhal be ſo accuſed or preſented, as is aforeſayde, and doe ſuche reaſonable penance for their offences, as ſhall be limitted by the diſcrecion of the ſayde ordinaries And if they after their lawfull conuiction, refuſe to abiure, or after abiuracion fall in relapſe, and be duely accuſed or preſented, and conuicte therof, as is aforeſayde: that then in ſuche caſes they ſhalbe committed to laye power, to be burned in open places for example of other, as hath bene accuſtomed, the kinges writte, de heretico comburendo, firſte had and obteyned

for

for the same.

¶ And where the great numbre of the kinges subiectes hauinge lyttell or no lerninge nor knowledge of letters, haue bene put in opinion, that by diuers lawes, decrees, ordinaunces, and constitucions heretofore made by the bishop of Rome, called the pope, and his predecessours, or by their aucthorites for the aduauncement of their worldlie glory and ambicion, euery man, that in any thing speketh or doth against the sayde pretensed power, or aucthoritie of the same bishop of Rome, or any the said lawes, decrees, ordinaunces, and constitucions standeth in danger, and is impeachable of heresie whiche effect or matter, nor any such lawes, decrees, ordinaunces, or constitucions, not approued & confirmed by holy scripture, was neuer commonly accepted or confirmed to be any law of god or man within thys realme. Wherfore be it enacted and ordeyned by aucthoritie of this presente parliament, that no maner speaking, doing, communicacion, or holdynge agaynst the sayde bishop of Rome, or his pretenced power or aucthoritye, made or giuen by humayne lawes or policies, and not by holy scrypture: nor any speakinge doinge communicacion or holdinge against any lawes, called spirituall lawes, made by aucthoritie of the see of Rome, by the policie of men, whiche be repugnant, or contrariant to the lawes and statutes of this realme, or the kinges prerogatiue roial shalbe demed, reputed, accepted, or taken to be heresie. Nor that any subiect or resyant of this realme shalbe for any suche speakinge, doing, communicacion, or holdynge, impeched, vexed, or troubled for anye poynte or matter of the sayde detestable crime of heresie: anye what so euer canon lawes, decrees, ordinances, constitucions, or other thing here to fore made, or being, or hereafter to be made to the contrarie thereof not withstanding.

¶ Prouided alway that suche person and persones, as shall happen to be accused, presented, or indited of heresie, as is afore lymytted by thys acte shall and may be letten to baile by the ordinaries by their discrecions, or els in their defaulte, if they refuse so to do, then by the discrecion of two iustices of peace of that shire, where suche persons so accused or presented, shall inhabit, by .iiii. sufficient sureties to be bounden to the kynges vse by oblygacions or recognisance to appere before the ordinaries at such daies, times, and places, as shalbe limytted in the sayde bondes by the sayde ordynaryes, or in their defaultes, by the sayd two iustices, except the ordinarye can and doe declare vnto the kinges highnes, & to his counsayle, a reasonable cause, that the sayde persone or persons so accused or presented of heresie, shoulde not be lett to bayle, as is afore limitted.

¶ An acte concerning printers and binders of bookes. Ca xv.

Where as by the prouision of a statute made in the fyrste yeare of the reygne of kynge Rycharde the thyrde, it was prouided in the same acte, that all straungers repayrynge into this

this realme, might lawfully bringe into the sayd realme printed and writ-
ten bookes to sell at their libertye and pleasure, By force of whiche prou-
sion there hathe comen into this realme sithen the makinge of the same, a-
maruaylous numbre of printed bookes and dayly doth. And the cause of
the makinge of the same prouision semeth to be, for that there were but
fewe bookes and fewe printers within this realme at that time, whyche
coulde well exercise and occuppe the sayde science and crafte of printinge:
Neuertheless, sithen the makinge of the sayde prouision, many of thys re-
alme, beinge the kinges naturall subiectes, haue giuen them so diligently
to learne and exercise the sayd craft of printynge, that at this day there be
within this realme a great numbre conning and expert in the sayde science
or crafte of printinge, as able to exercise the sayde crafte in all poyntes, as
any straunger in any other realme or countrey. And furthermore where
there be a great numbre of the kinges subiectes within thys realme, why-
che liue by the crafte and misterie of bindinge of bookes, and that there be
a great multitude well experte in the same: yet all this not withstandinge
there are diuers persones, that bringe from beyonde the sea greate plentye
of printed bookes, not onely in the latin tongue, but also in our maternall
englishe tongue, some bounde in bordes, some in lether, and some in par-
chemente, and them sell by retayle, wherby many of the kinges subiectes,
beinge binders of bookes and hauinge none other facultie wherwyth to
get theyr liuing, be destitute of worke, and lyke to be vndone: except some
reformacion herein be had, Be it therfore enacted by the kinge our soue-
raygne lorde, the lordes spirituall and temporall, and the commons in thys
present parliament assembled, and by aucthoritie of the same, that the saide
prouiso, made the first yere of the sayde king Richarde the thirde, from the
feaste of the natiuitie of our lorde god nert comminge, shalbe voyde and of
none effecte.

¶ And further be it enacted by the aucthoritie aforesayd, that no person or
persons, resiant or inhabytant within this realme, after the sayde feaste of
Christmas nert coming, shal bie to sell againe any printed bookes brought
from anye partes out of the kinges obeysance, redye bounden in bourdes,
lether, or parchement, vpon peine to lose and forfaite for euery booke bound
out of the sayde kinges obeysance, and brought into this realme, & bought
by any person or persons within the same to sell agayne contrary to thys
acte, sixe shilling eyght pence.

¶ And be it further enacted by the aucthoritie aforesayde, that no person or
persones inhabitant or resiant within this realme, after the sayde feaste of
of Christmas, shall bie within this realme, of any straunger borne out of
the kinges obedience other then of denizens, any maner of printed bookes
brought from any the parties beyond the sea, except onely by engrose & not
by retayle: vpon peine of forfayture of. vi.s. viii.d. for euery boke so bought
by retayle, contrary to the fourme & effecte of this estatute, the sayd forfai-
tures, to be alwaies leuied of the biers of anye suche bookes, contrary to

this

this acte: The one halfe of all the sayde forfaitures to be to the vse of our soueraygne lorde the kinge, and the other moytie to be to the partie that wyl sease or sue for the same in any of the kinges courtes, be it by bill, playnt, or information, wherin the defendant shall not be admitted to wage his law nor no protection, ne essoin shalbe vnto him allowed.

¶ Prouided alwaye and be it enacted by the aucthoritie aforesayd, that if any of the sayde printers, or sellers of printed bokes, inhabited within this realme at any time hereafter happen in suche wyse to enhance and encrease the prices of any suche printed bokes in sale or binding, at to highe and vnreasonable prices, in suche wise as complaynt be made therof vnto the kinges highnes, or vnto the lorde chauncellour, lorde tresurer, or any of the cheife Justices of the one benche or of the other: that then the same lorde chauncellour, lorde Tresorer, &.ii. cheife Justices, or twoo of any of them, shall haue power and aucthoritie to enquire therof as well by the othes of xii honest and discrete persons, as other wise by due examynacion by their discrecions. And after the same enhansinge and encreasinge of the sayde prices of the sayde bookes and bynding shall so be founde by the said twelue men, or otherwyse by examinacion of the sayde chauncellour, lorde tresorer, and Justices, or two of them: that then the same lorde chauncellour, lorde treasourer, and Justices, or two of them at the leaste, from time to time, shall haue power and aucthoritie to reforme and redresse suche enhansinge of the prices of printed bookes, from time to time by theyr discrecions, and to limit prices as well of the bookes as for the bindinge of them: and ouer that the offender or offenders therof, beyng conuict by the examinacion of the same lorde chauncellour, lorde tresourer, and two iustices, or two of them, or otherwise, shall lose and forfayte, for euery booke by them solde, wherof the price shall be enhansed, for the booke or bindynge therof.iii.s. iiii.d. the one halfe therof shall be to the kinges highnes, and the other halfe vnto the parties greeued, that wyll complayne vppon the same, in maner and forme before rehersed.

¶ An acte that euery iudge of the highe courtes and certaine other, may haue one chaplaine beneficed with cure. Cap.xvi.

Where in the parliamente holden at westminster in the xxi. yere of the reygne of our soueraigne lorde kinge Henrye the .viii. it was amonges other thynges ordeyned and prouided, that certayne honorable persons, as well spirituall as temporall, shall haue chaplaynes benefyced withe cure, to serue them in their honorable houses whyche chaplaynes shall not incurre the daunger of any penaltie or forfayture, made or declared in the same parliamente for none residence vpon their sayde benefices, or for obteyning licences or dispensa-

cions

tions of pluralites. In the whiche acte no prouision was made for anye of the kinges iudges of hys highe courtes, commonly called the kynges benches and the common place, except onely for the cheife iudge of the kinges benche, nor for the chauncelour, nor the cheife baron of the kinges exchekier, nor for any other inferiour persons, beinge of the kinges moste honorable counsaile, as by the sayd acte may appere. Wherfore it is ordeined and enacted by auctoritie of this present parliament, that as well euerye iudge of the sayde highe courtes and euery of the chauncellour and cheife baron of the sayde eschequire, the kinges generall attorney, and generall Solicitour, whiche for the time is, be, or shalbe, shall and may from hencefor the at his libertye reteyne and haue singularly to euerye of them in hys house, or attendant to his persone, one chaplaine, hauinge one benefice with cure of soules, which may be absent from hys sayde benefice, and non resident vpon the same. The sayde statute made in the sayde xxi. yere, or any other statute, acte, or ordenaunce made to the contrary, in anye wyse not withstandinge.

An acte concerning shoting in crosbowes and handgunnes. Ca xbii.

Where before this time diuers and sundry good statutes and prouisions haue bene made and ordeined for the auoydinge and eschewinge of shotinge in crosbowes and handgonnes whiche sayde holsome statutes and prouisions not withstandinge many wilfull and lyghte disposed persons from tyme to tyme haue attempted the breche or violacion of the same statutes. In consideracion wherof be it enacted, ordeined, and established, by the auctoritie of this present parliament, that no person or persons, of what estate or degree he or they be: except he or they be in their owne right, or in the right of his or their wifes, to his or their owne vses, or any other to the vse of any suche person or persones, haue landes, tenementes, fees, annuities, or offyces to the yerely value of an hundred pounde, from the first day of June next coming, shall shote in any handgunne or crosbowe, or vse or kepe in his or their houses, or els where, any crosbowe or handgunne, vpon peine to forfayte for euery tyme that he or they offende contrary to this acte .x.li. And that it shalbe lawfull to euery person, that may vse and keepe any crosbowe or handgunne, or that may shote in the same (not withstanding this acte) to seise and take euery such crosbowe and handgunne or anye of them, from the kepinge or possession of euerye such offender, and the same to kepe or reteine to his or their owne vse.

And be it further enacted by the auctoritie aforesayde, that no lordes or owners of anye leetes, beare or mainteine anye of their tenantes, or seruantes within the precincte or iurisdiction of their leetes, to doe or offende contrary to this acte, vpon peine to forfayte for euery time so offendung

doinge x. li. The one moitye of all the same forfaytures to be to the kinges highnes, his heyres or successours, and the other moytie to the partye that wyll pursue for the same, by bill, playnt, action of det, or informacion in any of the kinges courtes, in which suite no essoin or protection shall be allowed, nor the defendant receiued to wage his lawe.

¶ Be it also further enacted by the authoritie aforesayd, that it shal be lefull to the Justices of peace in their sessions, and to all stewardes and bayllies in their seuerall leetes, to enquire, here, and determine euery suche offence hereafter to be committed or done contrarye to the fourme of thys estatute: so that alwaye no lesse fyne then x. li. be assessed vppon euery suche presentment and conuiction accordinge to the due course of the lawe. The same fine so by the Justices of peace, vppon euery presentment or conuyction made before them, to be paide and leuied onely to the kinges vse. And the moitie of euery fine to be assessed by the stewardes or bayliffes of euery leete, vppon euery presentment and conuiction before them to be made, to be payed and leuied to the vse of the owner of the same leete by distres or action of dette: and the other moytie of the same fine to be to the partye, that wyll pursue for the same in any of the kinges courtes, by bill, playnt, informacion, or action of dette, in whiche no essoin or protection shall be allowed, nor the defendant shalbe receiued to the wager of his lawe.

¶ Prouided alwaye, yf that any offender contrary to the fourme of thys estatute by any maner of processe or meane fyrst agaynst hym conceiued or presented, shalbe compelled or constrayned to paye or content any such forfayture or penaltye, as is aforesayde, for his sayd offence contrary to thys acte: that then euerye suche offendour, after payment or satisfaction made therof, shalbe clerely acquited and discharged agaynst euery other person for the same forfayture or penaltye in euery suite, processe or presentmente agaynst him to be pursued for the recouerie of the sayd penaltie.

¶ Be it also further enacted by the authoritie aforesayde, that all licences, letters, placardes, giuen or graunted, or here after before the sayde fyrste day of June nexte comminge to be giuen, had, or graunted to anye person or persons by the kinges highnes: for the shotinge in crossebowes or handgunnes, or for the vsinge or kepinge of the same, contrarye to the fourme of this acte, shall be vtterly voyde and of none effecte.

¶ Be it also further enacted by the authoritie aforesaide, that all former statutes made & prouided and for the auoyding and restraint of shotinge in crossebowes or handegunnes, or of and for anye of them, or for the vsinge & kepinge of the same, be from henceforth vtterly voyde, and of none effecte.

¶ Prouided alwaye, that euery proces, suite, or informacion, conceiued, commenced, and nowe depending for anye offence done contrarye to the fourme of anye estatute made or prouided for the shotinge in crossebowes & handgunnes not repealed and for the kepinge of the same, shall be good and effectuall to the parties that haue cõmenced the same, in suche fourme, effecte, degree, or condition, as if this acte had neuer bene made.

¶ Prouided alwaie that this acte or anye thinge therin conteined be not in any wise hurtefull or preiudiciall to any person or persons now being, or that hereafter shalbe appoynted by the kinges highnes to kepe, receiue, or take any crosselbowes or handgunnes, that shal be forfayt, or taken within the precincte or libertie of the kinges forestes, parkes, or chases: but he or they may lawfully kepe and reteine the same crosselbowes or handgunnes from time to time, vnto suche tyme as the further pleasure of the kynges highnes in that behalfe be to euery suche person shewed and declared.

¶ Prouided alway, that this act extēd not to the makers of crosselbowes or handgunnes: but that they may lawfully kepe crosselbowes and handgunnes in their houses, and shote in crosselbowes or handgunnes onely for prouing and assaying of them. ¶ Prouided alwaies that in al walled townes within seuen myles of the sea, and other townes or holdes standynge vpon the sea costes, or vpon any of the englishe marches or against Scotlande, it shalbe lefull to euery man dwelling in suche townes or holdes to kepe in their houses, being within the same townes or holdes, crosbowes and handgunnes, for the only defence of the said townes, holdes, & houses, & as well to exercise & vse them in & for the defence of the said townes & houses, beyng in the sayde townes, as for to carie them to their shyppes, there to kepe & exercise them for defence of their shippes, and for their goodes in the same shippes, and for none other cause, anye thynge comprised or expressed in this present acte to the contrarie notwithstanding.

¶ Prouided also, that if any person or persons hereafter in anye parte doe offende, or do contrary to the purvew & remedie of this act, wherupō there is cause of action for the same geuen to the kinge, his heyres or successours or to any other person or persons that will sue by vertue of this acte, for the punish ment of the sayd offence or forfaites, that if the king our soueraygne lord, his heires or successours, within one yere nert immediatly after suche offences and forfaytes had and made, do not pursue their action or actions so geuen by the sayd act or cause of examinacion vpon suche defaultes and offences to be had & made before their counsell, or other presentments therof to be had according to the meaning of the same act. And euery other person, which hereafter may haue action or actions, vpon this statute within halfe a yere nert and immediatly after suche offences and forfaites had & made, do not cōmence their suites, informacion, or presentmentes, of & vpon the sayd forfaites, by action or otherwise, as of & vpon suche forfaytes as be declared and expressed in this present acte, that then as wel the kinge our soueragine lord, his heires & successours, after one yere nert after suche offences and forfaites had & made, if none sute in his or their name be takē by action or otherwise, as is before expressed, before the same yere ended & determined, as euery other persō after half a yere nert after like offences & forfaites had & made in forme aforesayd, if none suite therupon be takē by none of thē in forme aboue declared, be vtterly excluded and barred of their sayd suites, actions, & examinacions to thē giuen by vertue of this said act.

And the parties and euerye of them so offendinge, be of all suche offences and forfaytes clerely discharged and quite, any thyng in this acte compryssed to the contrarie not wythstandyng, and as thoughe thys acte had neuer bene had nor made.

¶ Prouided also that thys acte or anye thinge therin conteyned, extende not or be preiudiciall to anye marchauntes, the whyche haue or shall haue anye crosse bowes or handgunnes to selle within this realme, and to none other vse. Prouided alwaie, that no maner of person renne in any danger or take hurte by reason of any penaltie or forfaiture conteined in this acte, tyll suche tyme as proclamacion be made of the same acte: nor by the space of.xx. dayes nexte after the sayde proclamacion be made within the countie, where the partye that shal or may offend contrary to this act dwelleth.

¶ Prouided also that if any maner of person bringe or cause to be brought with him in to his lodgeing, or in any other mans house, any crossebowe or handgunne: that then the penaltie and forfayture, if anye suche be or hereafter shalbe forfayted by reason of this acte, to renne & be onely vppon the bringer of the sayde crosbow and handgunne, and not to the owner of the same lodging or house, if the said owner of the sayd lodging cause the bringer therof to take and recarye awaye the saide crossebowe or handgunne ageine with him at his departinge, anye thynge in thys acte made to the contrary not withstandinge.

¶ Prouided alwaye, that thys acte concerninge crossebowes and handgunnes, ne anye thinge therin conteined, extende or anye wyse be hurtefull to anye person or persones, to whom it shall please the kynge our soueraygne lord, his heires, or successours to gyue lycence by hys letters patentes vnder hys greate seale to shote in crossebowes or handgunnes, or in euery of them: or to haue and kepe the same crosbowes and handgunnes in his or their houses for the defence of the same.

¶ Be it also enacted by the auctoritie of this present parliament, that yf any person or persons here after from the first day of June next cõming, se or finde any person or persons offendinge or doing contrarie to the fourme and effecte of this acte, that then it shalbe lefull for euery suche persone or persones, perceiuinge, findynge, or seynge any suche person or persones so offendinge contrarye to the forme of this acte, to arreste and attache euery suche offender or offenders, and to bringe or conueye the same offender or offenddours, to the nexte Justice of the peace of the same countie, where the sayde offendour or offendours shall be founde so offendinge. And that the same Justice of peace vppon a due examination and proofe thereof before him hadde or made by hys discrecion, shall haue full power and auctoritie to send or cõmit the same offender or offenders, to the nexte gaole, there to remayne tyll suche time as the sayde penaltie or forfaiture shalbe truely contented & paide by the sayde offender. The one moitie of the same penaltie to be paide to the kinges highnes, & the other moytye therof to the first bringer or conueyer of the saide offender to the same Justice of peace.

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¶ Prouided alway, that this acte or anye thinge therin conteyned, be not in any wise hurtfull or preiudiciall to any seruant or person, that hereafter from the sayd first day of June, shall bende, beare, vse, or assaye anye crossebowe or handgunne, by the commaundemente of his lorde or mayster, so that the sayde seruant or persone do not shote at any fowle, deere, or other game, what kinde or nature so euer they be, nor also to any suche seruant, persone or persons, that shall after the sayde firste daye of June, beare, or conueye anye crossebowe or handgunne, to anye place or places by the commaundement of his lord or maister, that may shote by the aucthoritie of this acte, so that the said seruāt or other person, so bringing or conueying the sayd crossbowe or handgunne, haue redye to shewe to euery person, requiringe the sight therof, one licence in writinge sealed or subscribed by his sayde lorde or maisters hande, to carye and conueye the same crossebowe or handgunne, to thintent to be amended, repaired, or assaied, as is aforesayd.

¶ Prouided also, that this acte, nor any thing therin conteyned, be hurtefull or preiudiciall to any gunners beynge in the kinges wages, onely for shotinge in handgunnes, bearinge or kepinge of the same handgunnes in their houses, So alwayes that they with the same doe not shote vnto any beaste or fowle vpon the peynes before expressed.

¶ Prouided alway that it shalbe laufull for the inhabitauntes of the coūtreis of Northumberlande, Duresme, Westmerlande, and Comberlande to kepe in their houses, crosbowes, and handgunnes, & shote in the same for defence of their persons, goodes, and houses agaynste theues, scottes, and other the kinges enemies, and for clensing and scourynge of the same onely, and for none other purpose, this acte or any thinge comprised within the same not withstanding.

¶ An acte concerning clothiars, or makers of wollen clothes within the shire of Worcester. Ca xviii.

Sheweth vnto the kinge our soueragine lorde, and to the lordes spirituall and temporall, and to the cōmons in this present parliament assembled, the citezens, burgeses, & inhabitaūtes of the citie of worceter, and of the townes of Euasham, Droitwiche, Kedermynster, & Bromisgroue within the countie of worcester, that where the sayd citie, boroughes, and townes haue bene in times paste well & substancially inhabited, occupied, mainteind, and vpholden by reason of makinge of wollen clothes, called longe clothes, short clothes, & other clothes as well whites, blewes, and browne blewes, and the poore people of the same citie, borowes, and townes, and of the countrey adioyning to them dayely sette a worke, as in spinninge cardinge, breakenge, and sortinge, of wolles, & the handy craftes there inhabitinge, as weauers, fullers, shere men, & diers, haue ben wel set a worke, & had sufficient liuing by the same: vntill now within fewe yeres passed, that diuers persōs inhabiting & dwellinge in the hamlettes, thropes, & villages, adioyning to the said citie, bo-

towes, and townes, within the said shire for their priuate welthes, singuler aduantages, and commodities, nothinge regardinge the mayntenance and vpholdinge of the sayde citie, boroughes, and townes, ne the common welth of the sayde handy craftes, inhabitinge & dwelling within the sayde citie, boroughes, and townes, ne the poore people which had liuing by the same, haue not onely engrossed and taken into their handes diuers & sundry fermes, & become fermers, graziers and husbandmen, but also doe exercise, vse and occuppe the misterie of clothmaking, weauing, fullinge, & sherynge within their sayde houses, and do make al maner of clothes, as well brode clothes, whites, and playne clothes within their sayd houses, in the countreis abrode, to the great decay, depopulacion, and ruine of the sayde cite, townes, & borowes. For remedy wherof, & for the amēdmēt, good aduancement of the said cite, borowes and townes, be it enacted by auctoritie of this present parliament, that after the last day of Septēber, whiche shall be in the yere of our lorde god. 1536. no maner person ne persons, of what degree or condicions so euer he or they be of, shall make or cause to be made within the sayd shire of Worcester any maner of wollen clothes to be sold, excepte onely suche person or persons, as after the saide laste daye of September, shal be dwellinge & inhabitinge within the said citie of Worcester the boroughes, and townes of Euesham, Droitwiche, Kederminster, and Bromsgroue within the sayd countie of Worceter, or in any one of them, vpon peine of forfayture, for euery such brode cloth made after the said day by anye person or persons, contrarie to the true meaninge of this acte. xl.s.

¶ And further it is prouided by the auctoritie aforesaid, that the lordes & owners of the meses, tenementes, or cotages within the sayd citie, or anie of the townes and boroughes aforesaide, shal at no time hereafter dimitte, sette, or let anye mese, tenement, or cotage sufficiently repaired within the saide citie, boroughes, or townes before limitted to anye person or persons, that hereafter shall inhabite in the saide citie, boroughes, or townes and exercisinge any of the sayde misteries or craftes, at anye higher rent, impocicion, or charge, then was geuen for the same at anye time within .xx. yeres next before the makinge of this acte onely except.

¶ Prouided alwaye, that this acte be not hurtefull ne preiudiciall to anye person or persons for makinge any clothes for their owne wearinge, theyr children, or seruantes wearinge,

¶ Also prouided, that in the sayde citie and euery towne & borroughe aforesayd, that there shalbe due serch made of euery suche clothe beforesaid ther made, and that they be meated both length and brede being wette frō the mill, & before they be set vpon the racke and dried: and that they shalbe sealed with the seale of the sercher of the same citie, towne, or borowe, which seale shall haue a stampe conteininge the true numbers for the length and bredeth of the same clothe beinge wette, in peyne of forfatting for euery clothe put to sale, not hauinge the sayde seale of the sercher xx.s. And the sealer to forfayte for euerye clothe, by him serched and sealed contrarye to

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the true meaning of this act. vi. s. viii. d. The one halfe of the sayd forfaites to be to the king our soueraine lord, & the other halfe to the partie that will sue for the same in any of the kinges courtes, by writ of dette, bylle, plaint, or informacion, in whiche action or actions, the defendantes or defendant shall not wage their law, ne any essoin or protectiō shalbe allowed: And the sercher shall haue for ỳ serching & sealing of euery cloth a peny, & not aboue

¶ An acte concerninge the submission of the clergie to the kinges maiestie. Ca xix.

Where the kinges humble and obediente subiectes, the clergye of this realme of England, haue not onely knowledged accordynge to the truth, that the conuocations of the same clergie is alwaies hath bene & ought to be assembled onely by the kinges writ, but also submitting thē selues to the kinges maiestie, haue promised in in verbo sacerdotii, ỳ they wil neuer from henceforth presume to attēpt, aledg, claime, or put in vre, or enact, promulge, or execute any new canōs, cōstitucions, or dinaunce prouincial, or other, or by what so euer other name they shalbe called in the Conuocation, onles the kinges most roial assent & licence may to them be had, to make, promulge, & execute the same: and that his maiestie doe geue his moste roiall assent and authoritie in that behalfe. And where dyuers constitucions, ordenaunces, and canons prouinciall or Synodall, which heretofore haue bene enacted and be thoughte not onely to be muche prciudiciall to the kinges prerogatiue royall, and repugnant to the lawes and statutes of this realme, but also euer muche onerous to his highnes and his subiectes: the sayde clergye hath moste humblie besought the kinges highnes, that the sayde constitutions and canons may be committed to to the examinacion & iudgment of his highnes, and of xxxiii. persons of the kinges subiectes, wherof .xvi. to be of the vpper and nether house of the parliamente, of the temporaltie, and other .xvi. to be of the clergye of this realme, And all the sayde .xxxii persons to be chosen and appointed by the kinges maiestie. And that suche of the sayde constitucions, and canons as shalbe thought and determined by the sayde .xxxii. persons, or the more parte of them, worthy to abrogated & adnulled, shalbe abolite and made of no value accordingly. And such other of the same constitucions & canons, as by the sayd .xxxii. or the more parte of them, shal be approued to stande with the lawes of god, and consonant to the lawes of this realm, shall stād in their full strength and power, the kinges most royal assent first had and obteined to the same. Be it therfore nowe enacted, by authoritie of this present parliament, accordinge to the saide submission & petition of the saide clergie, that they ne any of them from henceforth shall presume to attempte, aledge, claime, or put in vre any constitucions, or ordenances prouincial or Synodals, or any other canons. Nor shall enacte promulge, or execute any suche canons, constitucions, or ordinance prouinciall, by what

ſo euer name or names they maie be called in their conuocacions in tyme cominge, which alwaie ſhalbe aſſembled by aucthoritie of the kinges writ, Onles the ſame clergie may haue the kinges moſt royall aſſent and licence to make, promulge, and execute ſuch canons, conſtitucions and ordinances prouinciall or Sinodall, vppon peyne of euery one of the ſayde clergie, doinge contrary to this, and beynge thereof conuicte, to ſuffre imprisonment, and make fine at the kinges will.

¶ And for as muche as ſuche canons, conſtitucions, and ordinaunce, as heretofore haue bene made by the clergie of this realme, can not nowe at the ſeſſion of this preſente parliamente, by reaſon of ſhorteneſſe of tyme, be veiwed, examined, and determined by the kinges highnes, and .xxxii. perſonnes to be choſen and appointed, accordynge to the peticyon of the ſaid clergie, in fourme aboue reherſed: Be it therfore enacted by aucthoritie aforeſaid, that the kinges highnes ſhall haue power and aucthoritie to nominate and aſſigne at his pleaſure the ſayde .xxxii. perſonnes, of hys ſubiectes, whereof .xvi. to be of the clergie, and .xvi. to be of the temporaltie, of the vppet and nether houſe of the parliament. And yf anye of the ſaide .xxxii. perſons ſo choſen, ſhall happen to die before their full determynacion: then his highnes to nominate other from tyme to tyme, of the ſayde to houſes of the parliament, to ſupplye the numbre of the ſaide .xxxii. And that the ſame .xxxii. by hys highnes ſo to be named, ſhall haue power and aucthoritie to viewe, ſerche, and examine the ſayd Canons, conſtitucions, and ordinaunce prouincyall and ſinodall heretofore made, and ſuche of them, as the kinges highnes, and the ſayde .xxxii. or the more parte of them ſhall deme and adiudge worthy to be continued, kepte, and obeyed, ſhall be from thencefoorthe kepte, obeyed, and exetuted within this realme, ſo that the kynges moſte royall aſſent, vnder his greate ſeale, be firſte had to the ſame. And the reſidue of the ſaid canons, conſtytucions, and ordinaunce prouinciall, whyche the kynges highnes, and the ſayde .xxxii. perſons, or the more parte of them, ſhall not approue, or deeme and iudge worthie to be abolite, abrogate, and made fruſtrate, ſhall from thencefoorthe be voyde and of none effecte, and neuer be putte in execucion within this realme. ¶ Prouided alway that no canons, conſtitucions or ordinance, ſhall be made or put in execution wythin thys realme, by aucthoritie of the Conuocacions of the clergye, which ſhalbe contrarvant or repugnant to the kinges prerogatyue royall, or the cuſtomes lawes or ſtatutes of thys realme, Any thynge conteined in thys acte to the contrary hereof not wythſtandinge.

¶ And be it further enacted by aucthoritie aforeſaid, that from the feaſt of Eaſter, whiche ſhalbe in the yeare of our lorde god .M.D.XXXIIII. no maner of appeales ſhalbe had, prouoked, or made out of thys realme, or out of any the kinges dominions, to the byſhop of Rome, nor to the ſee of Rome, in any cauſes or matters hapning to be in contencion, a hauing their commencement & beginning in any of the courtes within this realme, or within

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in any the kinges dominions, of what nature, condicion, or qualitie so euer they be of: but that all maner of appeles, of what nature or condicion so euer they be of, or what cause or matter so euer they concerne, shall bee made and had by the parties greued, or hauinge cause of appele, after such maner, forme, and condicion, as is limitted for appeles to be had and prosecuted within this realme in causes of matrimonie, tithes, oblacions, and obuencions, by a statute therof made and established sithen the begynninge of this present parliament, and accordinge to the fourme and effecte of the said estatute, any vsage, custome, prescription, or any thinge or thinges to the contrary herof not withstanding. And for lacke of Justice at or in anye the courtes of the archebishops of thys realme, or in anye the kynges dominions: it shall be lawfull to the parties greeued, to appele to the kinges maiestie, in the kinges court of Chauncery. And that vpon euery suche appele, a commission shall be directed vnder the greate seale to suche persons as shall be named by the kinges highnes, hys heyres or successours like as in case of appele from the Admyral courte, to here, and diffinitiuely determine suche appeales, and the causes concerninge the same. Wyche commissioners so by the kinges highnes, his heyres, or successours, to be named or appointed, shall haue full power and auctoritie to here, and diffinitiuely determine euery suche appele, with the causes and all circumstãces concerninge the same: And that suche iudgement and sentence, as the said commissioners shall make and decree, in and vppon any suche appele, shall be good and effectual, and also diffinitiue: and no further appeles to be had or made from the said commissioners for the same.

¶ And yf anye person or persones, at any tyme after the feaste of Easter, prouoke or sue anye maner of appeles, of what nature or condicion so euer they be of, to the saide bishop of Rome, or to the see of Rome, or do procure or execute anye maner of processe from the see of Rome, or by auctoritye therof, to the derogacion or let of the dewe execucion of thys acte, or contrarye to the same: that then euerye suche person or persones (so doynge) their aydours, counsaylours, and abbettours, shall incurre and runne into the daungers, paynes and penalties conteyned and lymitted in the acte of Prouision and Premunire, made in the .xvi. yere of the kinges moste noble Progenitour, king Richard the second, againste such as sewe to the courte of Rome, againe the kinges crowne and prerogatiue royall.

¶ Prouided alwayes, that all maner of prouocacions and appeles hereafter to be had, made, or taken from the iurisdiction of anye abbottes, priours, or other heds and gouernours of monasteries, abeyes, priores and other houses & places exempt, in suche cases as they were wont or mought afore the makynge of this acte, by reason of grauntes or liberties of suche places exempt, to haue or make immediately any appele or prouocation to the bishop of Rome, otherwise called the Pope, or the see of Rome, that in all these cases euerye person and persons, hauinge cause of appeale or prouocation, shall & may take and make their appeles, and prouocacions im-

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mediately to the kinges maiestie of this realme into the courte of Chaun-cery in like maner and fourme as they vsed afore to do to the see of Rome: Whiche appeles and prouocations so made, shall be diffinitiuely determined by aucthoritie of the kinges cōmission: in suche maner and forme as in this acte is aboue mencioned. So that no archebishop nor bishop of this realme, shallente rmitte or meddell with anye suche appeles, otherwise, or in anye other maner, then they mought haue done afore the makinge of this acte: any thing in this act to the contrary therof not withstanding.

¶ Prouided also that suche canons, constitutions, ordinances, and synodals prouinciall, beinge all redye made, whiche be not contraryant nor repugnante to the lawes, statutes, and customes of this realme, nor to the damage or hurte of the kinges prerogatiue roayll, shall nowe still be vsed and executed as they were afore the makinge of thys acte, tyll suche tyme as they be viewed, serched, or otherwise ordered and determined by the saide .xxxii. persones, or the more parte of them, accordinge to the tenoure, fourme, and effecte of this present acte.

¶ An acte restrainyng the paiment of annates, or first frutes to the bishop of Rome, and of the electing and consecrating of archbishops and byshoppes within this realme. Cap. xx.

Where sithen the begininge of this presente parliamente for tepresse of the exactyon of annates and fyrste fruites of archebyshopryckes and bishopryckes of this realme, wrongfully taken by the byshoppe of Rome, otherwise called the pope, and the see of Rome, it is ordeyned & established by an acte among other things, that the paymentes of the annates or first fruites, and all maner contributions for the same, for any suche archebishopricke or bishopricke, or for anye bulles to be obteyned from the see of Rome, to or for the sayd purpose or intent, should vtterly cesse, and no such to be payde for any archebishopricke or bishopricke, within this realme other wise then in the same acte is expressed. And that no maner of persone or persons to be named, elected, presented, or postulated to anye archebyshopricke or byshopricke within this realme, shoold paye the sayde annates or first fruites, nor any other maner of sume or summes of money, penciōs or annuites for the same, or for any other like exaction or cause, vppon peine to forfaite to our souerayne lorde the kinge, his heires, and successours, all maner his goodes and cattelles for euer, and all the temporall landes and possessions of the sayde archebishopricke or bishopricke, duringe the tyme that he or they, that should offende contrary to the sayd acte, shoulde haue, possede, and enioy the saide archbishopricke or bishopricke. And it was further enacted, that if anye persone named, or presented to the See of Rome by the kinges highnes or his heires or successours, to be byshop of anye see or dioces within this realme, should happen to be letted delaied or deferred at the see of Rome from any suche bishopricke, where vnto he shoulde be so

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presented, by meane of restraynt of bulles of the sayde bishop of Rome, otherwise called the pope, and other thinges requisite to the same, or shoulde be denied at the see of Rome, vppon conuenient suite made for anye bulles requisite for anye suche cause: that then euery person so presented mought or shoulde be consecrated in Englande by the archebishoppe, in whose prouince the sayde bishoppricke shall be: so alwayes that the same personne shoulde be named and presented by the kinge for the time being to the said archbishop. And if any person being named and presented (as is aforesaid) to any archbishoppick of this realme, makinge conuenient suite as is aforesaid, should happen to be letted, delaid, deferred, or otherwise disturbed from the sayde archebishoppricke, for lacke of pall, bulles, or other thinges to hym requisite to be obteined at the see of Rome: that then euery suche person so named and presented to be archbishop, mought & should be cõsecrated & inuested after presentacion made as is aforesaid, by anye other .ii. byshoppes within this realme, whome the kinges highnes, or any his heires or successours, kinges of englande, woulde appoint & assigne for the same accordinge & after like maner, as diuers archebishops & bishops haue bene heretofore in aunciente tyme by sundrye the kinges moste noble progenytours made, consecrated, and inuested within this realme. And it was further enacted by the said act, that euery archbishop & bishop, being named & presented by the kinges highnes, his heires & successours kinges of England, & being consecrated & inuested, as is aforesaid, shalbe installed accordyngly, & should be accepted, taken, & reputed, vsed & obeied, as an archbishop or bishop of the dignitie, see, or place, wherunto he shalbe so named presented & consecrated, & as other like prelates of that prouince see or dioces haue bene vsed accepted, taken, & obeied, which haue had & obteyned completly their bulles & other thinges requisite in that behalfe from the see of Rome, & also shoulde fully & intierly haue & enioy all the spiritualties and temporalties, of the saide archebishoppricke or bishoppricke in as large ample and beneficiall maner, as anye of his or their predecessours had or enioyed in the sayde archebishoppricke or bishoppricke, satisfiynge and yeldynge vnto the kinges highnes, and to hys heires, and successours, all suche dueties, rightes, and inuestes, as before time hath bene accustomed to be paied for any suche archebishoppricke or bishoppricke, accordynge to the aunciente lawes and customes of this realme, and the kinges prerogatiue royall, as in the sayde acte amonges other thinges is more at large mencioned.

¶ And albe it the saide bishop of Rome, otherwyse called the pope, hath bene enformed and certified of the effectual contentes of the said act, to the entente that by some gentill waies the sayde exactions mighte haue beene redressed and reformed: yet neuertheles the sayde bishop of Rome hitherto hath made none answere of his minde therin to the kinges highnes, nor denyed or required any reasonable waies to and with our sayde souerayne lorde for the same. Wherfore his moste royall maiestie, of his moste excellent goodnes, for the welth and profitte of this his realme and subiectes

of

of the same, hath not onely put his most gracious and royall assent to the foresayde acte, but also hath ratified and confirmed the same, and euerye clause and article therin conteined, as by his letters patentes vnder hys great seale enrolled in the parliament rolle of this present parliament more at large is conteined.

¶ And for as muche as in the saide acte it is not plainely and certaynely expressed, in what maner and facion archebishoppes and bishoppes shall be elected, presented, inuested, and consecrated within thys realme, and in all other the kinges dominions: Be it now therfore enacted by the kynge our soueraine lorde, by thassent of the lordes spirituall & tẽporall & the commons in this present parliament assembled, & by thauctoritie of the same, that the sayd acte, and euerye thinge therin conteined, shal be and stande in strength vertue and effecte, except onely that no person or persons hereafter shalbe presented nominated or cõmended to the said bishop of Rome, otherwise called the pope, or to the see of Rome, to or for the dignitie or office of anye archebishop or bishop within this realme, or in anye other the kinges dominions, nor shall sende nor procure there for anye maner of bulles, breues, palles, or other thinges requisite for an archebishop or bishop, nor shall pay any summes of money for annates, first fruites, or otherwise for expedicion of any such bulles, breues, or palles: but that by the auctoritie of this acte, such presenting, nominating, or commending to the sayde bishop of Rome, or to the See of Rome. and suche bulles, breues, palles, annates, first fruites, and euery other summes of money heretofore limitted, accustomed or vsed to be payde at the said see of Rome, for procuracion or expedicion of any suche bulles, breues, or palles, or other thinge concerning the same, shall vtterly ceasse and no lenger be vsed within this realme or within any the kinges dominions, any thing conteined in the said acte afore mencioned, or any vse, custome, or prescription to the contrary therof not withstanding.

¶ And furthermore be it ordeined & established by the auctoritie aforesaid that at euery auoydance of any archbishoppicke or bishoppicke within thys realme, or in anye other the kinges dominions: the kinge our soueraygne lorde, his heires, and successours may graunt to the prior and conuent, or the deane and chapiter of the cathedrall churches or monasteries, where the see of such archbishoppick or bishoppick shall happen to be voyd, a licence vnder the greate seale, as of olde time hath bene accustomed, to procede to election of an archebishop or bishop of the see so beinge voyde, with a letter missiue, conteininge the name of the personne, whyche they shall elerte and chose. By vertue of which licence the saide deane and chapiter, or prior and couent, to whom any such licence and letters missiues shalbe directed shal with al spede & celeritie, in due forme electe & chose the said person named in the sayd letters missiues to the dignitie & office of the archbishoppike or bysshoppicke, so beinge voyde, and none other. And if they do or differre or delay their election aboue. xii. daies next after such licence and letters missiues

to

to them deliuered, that then for euery such defaulte the kinges highnes, his heires and successours, at their libertie and pleasure, shall nominate and present by their letters patentes vnder their greate seale, suche a person to the sayd office and dignitie, so being voyde, as they shall thinke able & conuenient for the same. And that euery suche nomination and presentmente to be made by the kinges highnes, his heires and successours, if it be to the office and dignitie of a bishop, shalbe made to the archebyshop and metropolitane of the prouince, where the see of the same bishoprick is voide, yf the see of the said archbishop be then full & not voide: & if it be voide, then to be made to suche archebishop or metropolitane within this realme, or in any the kinges dominions, as shall please the kynges highnes, his heires or successours. And if anye suche nomination or presentment shall happen to be made for defaulte of suche election to the dignitie or office of anye archebishop: then the kinges highnes, his heires and successours, by hys letters patentes vnder his great seale shall nominate and present suche person as they will dispose to haue the sayde office and dignitie of archebishoprycke being voide, to one suche archebishop, and .iii. suche bishops, or els .iiii. suche bishoppes in this realme, or in anye the kinges dominions, as shall be assigned by our sayd souereygne lorde his heires or successours.

¶ And be it enacted by thauctoritie aforesaid, that when so euer any such presentmente or nomination shal be made by the kinges highnes, hys heires or successours, by vertue and auctoritie of this acte, and accordinge to the tenour of the same: that then euery archebishop and byshop to whose handes any suche presentment and nomination shalbe directed, shall with all speede & celeritie inuest and consecrate the person nominate & presented by the kinges highnes, his heires, or successours to the office and dignitie that such person shalbe so presented vnto, and giue and vse to him pall and all other benedictions, ceremonies, and thinges requisite for the same without suing, procuring, or obteining hereafter any bulles or other thinges at the see of Rome for any such office or dignitie in any behalfe. And if the sayde deane and chapiter, or pryour and couuente, after suche lycence and letters missiues to them directed within the sayde .xii. dayes, do electe and chose the sayde person mencioned in the sayde letters missiues, accordynge to the requeste of the kinges highnes, hys heires or successours, therof to be made by the sayde letters missiues in that behalfe: than their election shall stande good and effectuall to all intentes, and that the personne so elected, after certificacion made of the same election, vnder the comen and couent seale of the electours to the kinges highnes, his heires, or successours, shall be reputed and taken by the name of lorde elected of the said dignitie and office, that he shalbe elected vnto: And then makynge suche othe & feaultie onely to the kinges maiestie hys heires and successours, as shall be appoynted for the same, the kinges highnes by hys letters patentes vnder his greate seale, shall signifie the sayde election, if it be to the dignitie of a bishop, to the archebishop and metropolitane of the prouynce

where

where the see of the sayde bishoprycke was voide, if the see of the saide archbishop be full & not voyde. And if it be voyde, than to any other archebyshop within this realme, or in any other the kinges dominions, requiringe and commaundynge suche archebishop, to whom any suche signification shalbe made, to confirme the sayde election, and to inuest and consecrate the sayde person so elected to the office and dignitie that he is elected vnto, and to giue and vse to him all suche benedictions, ceremonies, and other thinges requisite for the same, without anye suinge, procurynge, or obteinynge anye bulles, letters, or other thinges from the sea of Rome for the same in anye behalfe. And if the person be elected to the office and dignitie of an archebishop, accordinge to the tenoure of this acte, then after suche election certified to the kinges highnes in fourme aforesayde, the same person so elected to the office and dignitie of an archebishop, shall be reputed and taken lorde electe of the sayde office and dignitie of archebishop, wherunto he shall be so elected: And then after he hath made suche othe and fealtie onely to the kinges maiestie, his heires and successours, as shall be limitted for the same, the kinges highnes, by his letters patentes vnder his greate seale, shall signifie the saide election to one archebishop and .ii. other bishops, or els to .iiii. bishops within this realme, or within any other the kinges dominions, to be assigned by the kinges highnes, his heirs, or successours, requiringe and commaundinge the sayde archebishop and bishops with all speede and celeritie, to confirme the sayde election, and to inueste and consecrate the sayde person, so elected to the office and dignitie, that he is elected vnto, and to giue and vse to him such palle, benedictions, ceremonies, and all other thinges requisite for the same, without suynge, procurynge, or obteininge any bulles, breifes, or other thinges at the sayde see of Rome, or by aucthoritie therof in any behalfe.

¶ And be it further enacted by aucthoritie aforsaid, that euery person and persones beinge hereafter chosen, elected, nominate, presented, inuested, and consecrate to the dignitie or office of any archebishop or bishop within this realme, or within any other the kinges dominions, accordynge to the fourme, tenure, and effecte of this present acte, and suinge their temporalities out of the kinges handes, his heires or successours, as hath bene accustomed, makynge a corporall othe to the kinges highnes, and to none other, in fourme as is afore reherled, shall and may from henceforth be trononised or installed, as the case shall require, and shall haue and take their only restitucion, out of the kinges handes, of all the possessions & profites spirituall & tẽporall belonging to the saide archbishoprick or bishoprick wherunto they shalbe so elected or presented, and shall be obeyed in all maner of thinges, accordinge to the name, title degree, and dignytye that they shalbe so chosen or presented vnto, and doe and execute in euery thinge and thinges, touchinge the same, as anye archebishop or byshop of thys realme, without offendinge of the prerogatiue royall of the crowne, and the lawes and customes of thys realme, mought at anye tyme heretofore doe.

And

¶ And be it further enacted by the aucthoritie aforesaid, that if the priour and couent of anye monasterie, or deane & chaptre of any cathedrall churche, where the see of any archbishop or bishop is within any the kinges dominions, after suche licence, as is afore rehersed shalbe deliuered to them, procede not to election, and signifie the same accordinge to the tenoure of this acte, within the space of .xx. dayes nexte after suche licence, shall come to their handes, or els yf any archebishope or bishop within any the kinges dominions, after anye suche election nominacion or presentacion shall be signified vnto them by the kinges letters patentes, shall refuse and do not confirme, inuest, and consecrate, with all due circumstance as is aforsaide euery suche person as shalbe so elected, nominate or presented, and to them signified as is aboue mencioned, within xx. dayes nexte after the kinges letters patentes of suche significacion, or presentacion shall come to theyr handes, or els yf any of them or any other person or persons, admit, mainteine, allowe, obey, doe, or execute any censures, excommunicacions, interdictions, inhibicions, or any other proces or acte, of what nature name or qualitie so euer it bee, to the contrarye or lette of dewe execucion of thys acte, that then euery Priour and particuler person of hys conuent, and euery deane and perticuler person of the chapiter, and euery archebishoppe & bishop, and all other persons so offendinge and doinge contrarye to this acte, or any parte therof, and their aidours, counsaylours, and abbettours shall runne in the dangers, peynes, and penalties of the estatute of the prouision & premunire, made in the .xxv. yere of the raygne of kinge Edwarde the thirde, and in the .xvi. yere of kinge Richarde the seconde.

¶ An acte concerninge the exoneracion of the kinges subiectes from exactions and imposicions here to fore payde to the see of Rome, and for hauinge licences and dispensacions within this realme without suing further for the same. Cap. xxi.

Most humbly besechē your most royal maiestie your obedient & faithfull subiectes, the commons of this your presēt parliament assembled by your most dradde commaundement, That where your subiectes of this your realme, & of other countreis & domininons being vnder your obeisāce, by many yeres past haue ben & yet be greatly decaied and impouerished by intollerable exactions of great summes of money, as haue bene claimed & taken, and yet continually be claymed to be taken out of this your realme, and other your sayd countreis & dominions by the byshop of Rome, called the pope, & the see of Rome, as well in pencions, censes, peter pence, procuracions, fruites, suites for prouisions & expedicions of buls for archbishoprickes, & bishoprickes, & for delegacies, and rescriptes

in cauſes of contencions and appeales, iuriſdictions, legatine, and alſo for diſpenſacions, licences, faculties, grauntes, relaxacions, writtes called Perinde valere, rehabilitacions, abolicions, and other infinite ſortes of buls, byeues, & inſtrumentes of ſundry natures names & kyndes in great numbres heretofore practyſed and obteyned, otherwiſe than by the lawes, laudable vſes, & cuſtomes of this realme ſhoulde be permitted, the ſpecialites wherof bene ouer longe, large in numbre, and tedious here particularly to be inſerted. wherin the biſhop of Rome afore ſayde, hath not bene onely to be blamed, for hys vſurpacion in the premiſes, but alſo for his abuſynge and beguilynge your ſubiectes, pretendynge and perſwadynge to them, that he hath full power to diſpence wyth all humayne lawes, vſes, and cuſtomes of all realmes, in all cauſes, whiche be called ſpyrytuall. Wherby the matter hathe bene vſurped and practyſed by him and hys predeceſſours by manye yeres, in great derogacion of your imperiall crowne and auctoritie royall, contrarye to tyght and conſcience. For where thys your graces realme recognyſynge no ſuperiour vnder god but onely your grace, hath bene and is free from ſubiection to anye mans lawes, but onely to ſuche as haue bene deuiſed, made, and ordeined within this realme for the weithe of the ſame or to ſuche other, as by ſufferaunce of your grace and your progenytours, the people of thys your realme haue taken at theyr free lybertie by theyr owne conſente to be vſed amonges theym and haue bounde theym ſelues by long vſe and cuſtome to the obſeruaunce of the ſame, not as to the obſeruaunce of the lawes of any forein prince, potentate, or prelate, but as to the cuſtomed & anciēt lawes of this realme, originally eſtabliſhed, as lawes of the ſame, by the ſaid ſufferance, cōſentes, & cuſtom, & none otherwiſe. It ſtādeth therfore with naturall equitie & good reaſon, that all & euery ſuche lawes humaine, made within this realm, or induced into this realme by the ſayd ſufferance, conſentes, & cuſtome, your royall maieſtie, and your lordes ſpirituall and tēporall, and commons repreſentynge the whole ſtate of your realme, in thys your moſte high courte of parliamente, haue full power and auctoritie, not onely to diſpence, but alſo to auctoriſe ſome electe perſon or perſones, to diſpence with thoſe and all other humayne lawes of this your realme and wyth euerye one of them, as the qualitye of the perſons and matter ſhall require. And alſo the ſayde lawes and euery of them to abrogate, adnulle, amplifie, or diminiſhe, as it ſhalbe ſene vnto your maieſtie, and the nobles and commons of your realme, preſent in your parliamente, mete & conuenyent for the welth of your realme, as by diuers good and holſome actes of parliamentes, made and eſtabliſhed, as well in your tyme, as in the tyme of your moſte noble progenitours, it maye playnelye and euidently appeare. And by cauſe that it is nowe in theſe dayes preſent ſene, that the ſtate, dignitie, ſuperiozitie, reputacion, and auctoritie of the ſayde imperiall crowne of this realme, by the longe ſufferaunce of the ſayde vnreaſonable and vncharitable vſurpacions and exactions, practyſed in the tymes of your moſte noble progenitours, is muche and ſore decayede,

and

and diminished, and the people of this realme therby impouerished, and so or worse be like to continue, if remedie therof be not shortly prouided.

¶ It may therfore please your moste noble maiestie, for the honour of almyghty god, and for the tender loue, zele, and affection, that ye beare and alwayes haue borne to the welth of this your realme, and subiectes of the same, for as muche as your maiestie is supreme head of the churche of Englande, as the prelates and clergie of your realme, representinge the sayde churche in theyr Synodes and conuocations haue recognised: in whome consisteth full power & aucthoritie vpon al such lawes as hath ben made & vsed within this realme, to ordeine and enact by the assent of your lordes spirituall and temporal, and the commons in this present parlyamente assembled, & by aucthoritie of the same, that no person or persons of this your realme, or of any other your dominions, shall from henceforth pay any pensions, censes, portions, peterpence, or any other impositions to the vse of the sayde bishop, or of the see of Rome, like as hertofore they haue vsed, by vsurpacion of the said byshop of Rome, & his predecessours, and sufferance of your highnes and your moste noble progenitours to do, but that all such pensions, censes, porcions, & peterpence, whiche the saide byshop of Rome, otherwise called the pope, hath heretofore taken and perceiued, or caused to be taken and perceiued to his vse and hys chambres, whyche he calleth apostolyke, by vsurpacion and sufferance, as is abouesayde, within thys your realme, or anye other your dominions, shall from henceforth clearly surcesse, and neuer more be leuied, taken perceiued, nor payde to anye person or persons in any maner of wise, any constitucion, vse, or prescription, or custome to the contrarye therof not withstandinge.

¶ And be it further enacted by the auctoritie aforesayde, that neyther your highnes, your heires, nor successours kinges of this realme, nor anye your subiectes of this realme, nor of any other your dominions shall from henceforthe sewe to the sayde byshoppe of Rome, called the pope, or to the see of Rome or to any person or persons, hauing or pretending any auctoritie by the same, for licences, dispensations, impositions, faculties graces, rescriptis, delegacies, or anye other instrumentes or writinges, of what kynde, name, nature, or qualitie so euer they be of, for any cause or matter: for the whiche anye licence, dispensacion, composicion, facultie, graunt, script, delegacie, instrument, or other writinge heretofore hath ben vsed and accustomed to be had and obteined at the see of Rome, or by auctoritie therof, or of any prelate of this realme: nor for any maner of other licences, dispensacions, compositions, faculties, graunte, rescriptes, delegacies, or any other instrumentes or writinges, that in causes of necessitie may lawfully be granted without offending of the holy scriptures and lawes of god: But that from henceforthe euerye suche licence, dispensacion, composicion, facultie, graunt, rescripte, delegacie, instrument, and other writinge afore named and mencioned, necessarye for your highnes, your heires and successours, and your and their people and subiectes, vpon

the due examynacions of the causes and qualities of the persones procuringe suche dispensacions, licences, compositions, faculties, grauntes, rescriptes, delegacies, instrumentes, or other writinges, shall be graunted hadde, and obteined from tyme to time, within this your realme, and other your dominions, and not els where, in maner and fourme folowing and none otherwise, that is to saye, the archebishop of Canturburye, for the time beinge, and his successours, shall haue power and auctoritie from tyme to time, by their discreasions, to geue, graunt, and dyspose by an instrument, vnder the seale of the sayde archebyshoppe, vnto your maiestie and to your heires and successours, kinges of this realme, as well all maner suche licences, dispensacions, compositions, faculties, grauntes, rescriptes, delegacies, instrumentes, and all other writinges for causes not beinge contrarye or repugnant to the holy scryptures and lawes of god, as heretofore hath bene vsed, and accustomed to be had and obteyned by your highnes, or any your moste noble progenitours, or anye of yours or theyr subiectes, at the see of Rome: or any person or persons by auctoritie of the same: and all other lycences, dispensacions, faculties, compositions, grauntes rescriptes, delegacies, instrumentes, and other writinges, in, for, and vpon all suche cases and matters, as shall be conuenient and necessarye to be hadde, for the honour and suertie of your highnes, your heires, and successours, and the welthe and profyt of thys your realme: So that the sayde archebishop, or any hys successours, in no maner wise shall graunt any dyspensacion, licence, rescript, or ani other writing afore rehersed, for anie cause or matter repugnant to the lawe of almightie god.

¶ Be it also enacted by auctoritie aforesayd, that the said archbishop and his successours, after good & due examinacion by them had, of the causes and qualities of the persons procuringe for lycences, dispensarions, compositions, faculties, delegacies, rescriptes, instrumentes, or other writinges, shal haue full power and auctoritie by them selfe, or by their sufficiet and substanciall commissarie or deputie by ther discreacions from tyme to tyme, to graunt and dispose by an instrument vnder the name and seale of the said archebishop, as well to any of your subiectes, as to the subiectes of your heires and successours, all maner licences, dispensacions, facultyes, compositions, delegacies, rescriptes, instrumentes, or other writinges for anye suche cause or matter, wherof heretofore such licentes, dispensacions compositions, faculties, delegacies, rescriptes, instrumentes, or writinges haue bene accustomed to be had at the See of Rome, or by auctoritie ther of, or of any prelate of this realme. And that the sayd archebyshop and hys commissarie shall not graunte anye other licence, dyspensacion, composicion, facultie, writinge, or instrument in causes vsuonte, and not accustomed to be had or obteyned at the courte of Rome, nor by auctoritie therof, nor by anye prelate of this realme, vntill your grace, your heires, or successours, or your or their counsaile shall firste be aduertised therof, and determine whether suche licences, dispensacions, compositions, faculties, or

other

other writinges in suche cause vnwont and not accustomed to be dispensed withall, or obteyned, shall commonly passe as other dispensacions, faculties, or other writynges, shall or do, vpon peyne that the graunters of euerye suche licence, dispensacion, or writinge in suche causes vnwonte, contrary to this acte, shall make fine at the will and pleasure of your grace your heires & successours. And if it be thought & determined by your grace your heires or successours, or your or their counsaile, that dyspensacions, faculties, licences, or other writynges in any suche cause vnwonte, shall passe then the sayde archebishoppe or hys commissarie, hauynge licence of your highnes, your heires, or successours for the same, by your or their bill assigned, shall dispence with them accordingly.

Prouided alwaies, that no maner of dispensacions, licences, faculties, or other rescriptes or writinges hereafter to be graunted to anye person or persones by vertue or aucthoritie of this acte by the sayde archebishoppe, or his commissarye, beinge of suche importance, that the tare for the expedicion therof at Rome, extended to the summe of foure poundes or aboue, shall in anye wise be put in execucion, tyll the same licence dispensacion, faculte, rescripte, or other writynge, of what name or nature so euer it be of, be fyrste confirmed by your highnes, your heires, or successours, kinges of this realme, vnder the greate seale, and inrolled in your Chaunccrie in a rolle by a clerke to be appoynted for the same. And that thys acte shall be a sufficyente warrante to the Chauncellour of Englande, for the tyme beinge, or to hym, whome your grace, your heyres or successours shall depute to be keper of the greate Seale, to confyrme in your name your heires, or successours the foresaide writinges, passed vnder the sayde archebishoppes seale, by letters patentes in due forme therof to be made vnder your greate seale, remittinge as well the saide writinge, vnder the archebyshoppes seale, as the sayd confirmacion vnder the greate seale, to the parties, from time to time procuringe for the same. And that all suche licences, dispensacions, faculties, and other rescriptes and writinges, for the expedicion of the whiche the sayde tares to be payde at Rome, was vnder .iiii.li. whiche be matters of no great importance, shall passe only by the archbishops seale, & shall not of any necessitie be confirmed by the great seale, oneles the procurers of suche licence, faculte, or dyspensacion, desire to haue them so confirmed, In whiche case they shall pay for the said great seale, to the vse of your highnes, your heires, and successours .vj.s sterlinges, and not aboue, ouer and beside suche tare as shall be hereafter lympted for the makinge, writynge, regestringe, confirminge, and enrollinge of suche licences confirmacions & writinges, vnder the sayd tare of.iiii.li. And that euery suche licence, dispensacion, compolicion, faculte, rescripte, and writinge, of what name or nature so euer it be, for suche causes as the tare was wonte to be.iiii.li. or aboue, so graunted by the archebyshope and confirmed vnder the greate seale, and all other licences, dyspensacions, faculties, rescriptes, & writinges hereafter to be graunted by the archbishop

by vertue and aucthoritie of this act, whereunto the great seale is not limitted of necessite to be put to, by reason that the care of them is vnder hym, shall be accepted, approued, allowed, & admitted good and effectuall in the lawe, in all places, courtes, and iurisdictions, as well spyrytuall as temporall within thys realme, as elswhere, wythin your dominions, and as beneficial to the persons obteininge the same, as they should haue ben, if they hadde bene obteyned with all thinges requisite, of the See of Rome, or of anye other person by aucthoritie therof, without any reuocation or repeale hereafter to be had of any suche licences, dispensacions, facultes, scriptes or writinges, of what nature so euer they be. And that all children procreated after solempnisacion of any mariages to be hadde or done by vertue of suche licences or dispensacions, shalbe admitted, reputed, and taken legitimate in all courtes, as well spiritual as temporall, and in all other places, & inherite the inheritance of their parents & ancestours within this your realme, and all other your dominions, accordyng to the lawes and customes of the same: and all actes to be done, had, or executed accordyng to the tenour of suche licences, dispensacions, facultes, writynges, or other instrumentes to be made or graunted by aucthoritie of this act, shalbe firme, permanente, and remayne in force, anye forreine lawes, constitucions, decrees, canons, decretalles, inhibicions, vse, custome, prescripcion, or anye other thinge hadde, or hereafter to be made to the contrarye, not withstandinge.

¶ And be it further enacted, that the said archebishop and hys successours shall haue power and aucthoritie to ordeine, make and constitute a clerke which shall write & registre euery such licence, dispensacio, facultie, writing, or other instrument to be graunted by the sayd archebyshop, and shall fynde parchement, ware, and silken laces conuenient for the same, and shall take for his peynes suche summes of money as shall be hereafter in thys present acte to hym limitted in that behalfe for the same. And that likewyse your grace, your heires & successours, shall by your letters patentes, vnder your great seale, ordeyne depute and constitute one sufficient clerke, beynge lerned in the courte of the chancerye, whiche alwayes shalbe attendant vpon the lorde Chancellour, or the lorde keper of the greate seale, for the time beynge, and shal make write and enrolle the confirmacions of all such lycences, dispensacions, instrumentes, and other writinges, as shall be thither brought vnder the archebishops seale, there to be confirmed and enrolled: And shall also intitle in his bokes and enroll of record suche other writinges, as thither shalbe broughte vnder the archebishops seale not to be confyrmed, takinge for his peynes suche reasonable summes of money, as hereafter by thys acte to him shalbe limitted for the same. And that aswell the sayde clerke appoynted by the sayd archebishoppe, as the sayde clerke to be appoynted by your highnes, your heyres, or successours, shall subscrybe their names to euerye suche licence, dispensacion, facultye or other writinge, that shall come to their handes to be written, made, graunted, sealed, con-

confirmed, regestred, and encolled by aucthoritie of this acte, in fourme as is before rehersed.

¶ And for as muche as the charges of obteininge the sayde licences, dyspensacions, faculties, and other rescriptes or writynges afore named, at the courte of Rome, by the losses and exchaunges, & in conductinge of currours, and wageing solicitours, to sue for anye suche licences, dispensacions, faculties, instrumentes, and other rescriptes or wrytinges, haue bē grevous & excessiue to your people, & many tymes greater summes haue bene demaunded for the spedye expedicion in the courte of Rome, then be expressed in the olde taxe, limitted to be payde for the saide expedycyons, wherby your people haue ben brought to an incerteintie vpon the paiment for expedicions of suche thinges, and by reason therof haue bene constreyned to pay more then they were wont to doe, to the great impouerishing of thys realme, as is aforesaide. And sometimes the spending of such dispensacion, faculties, licences, and other wrytinges at Rome, haue ben so longe differred, that the parties laboring for the same, haue suffred great incommodities and losse for lacke of quicke spede, whiche hereafter may be had within this your realme, to the greate commoditie of your people. Wherby the charges of making exchanges conducting of currours and solicitours for the sayde dispensacions, shalbe abated, and your people so muche releeued and eased, to thentent that all ambiguitie and incerteintie of paymentes for dispensacions, faculties, licences and other rescriptes & wrytinges may be taken away, that no fraude or exaction shalbe exercised vpon your people, by suche officers as shall be appoynted by this acte, to take peynes in spendinge suche dispensacions, faculties, and licences, but that your people may be sure and certayne, what they bee appoynted to paye for the same: Be it enacted by this present parliament, and by the aucthorite of the same, that there shalbe two bokes drawen & made of one tenour: in which shalbe conteined the taxes of all customable dispensacyons, faculties, licences, and other wrytinges, wonte to be spedde at Rome, whych bookes and euery leafe of those bookes, and bothe sides of euery leafe, shalbe subscribed by the archebishop of Canturbury, the lorde chauncellour of Englande, the lorde Treasourer of England, and the two cheife Justices of both benches for the tyme beyng: to the which bokes all suters for despensacions, faculties, licences, and other writinges afore rehersed, shall haue recourse, if they require it. And one of the sayd bokes shall remayne in the handes of hym, whiche shalbe appoynted to be regester and scribe of the said dispensacions, faculties and licences, vnder the said archbishop of Canturburie, in fourme as is before said: And the other booke shall remayne with the clarke of the Chauncerie, whiche by your grace, your heires, or successours shall be appoynted, as is before rehersed. Whiche clarke of the Chauncerie shall also intitle and note particulerly and dayely in his booke, ordeined for that purpose, the numbre and qualitie of the dispensacions, faculties, licences, and other rescriptes and writinges, whiche shalbe sealed onely with the seale of

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the sayd archebishop: and also whiche shalbe sealed with the sayd seale, and confirmed wyth the great seale, in fourme as is before sayd, that all fraude and conceilment in thys behalfe may be auoyded.

¶ And be it enacted, by this present parliament, and by thauthoritie of the same, that no man suing for dispensacions, faculties, licences, and other rescriptes or wrytinges, which were wont to be sped at Rome, shall pay any more for their dispensacions licence or rescriptes, then shall be conteined, tared, and limitted in the sayde duplicate boke of tares: onely compositions excepted, of whiche beinge arbitrarie no tare can be made: wherfore the tare therof shalbe set & limitted by the discreacion of the said archbyshop of Canturbrye, and the lorde chauncellour of England, or the lorde keper of the great seale, for the tyme beinge. And that suche as shall exacte or receiue of any suitter more for any dispensacion, faculte, or licence then shall be conteined in the sayde bookes of tares, shall forfayte ten times so much as he shall so extorciously exacte and receiue: the one halfe of the whiche forfayture to be to the vse of your grace, your heires, or successours, and the other half therof to be to such of your subiectes as will sue for the same by action, bill, or playnt in any of your graces courtes, wherin the defendant shall haue none essoin nor protection allowed, neither shall be admitted to wage hys lawe.

¶ Be it also enacted by this parliament and auctholitie of the same, that the tare or summe appoynted to be payde for euerye suche dispensacion licence, faculte, instrument, rescripte, or other writinge to be graunted by auctholitie of this acte, shalbe employed and ordered, as here after ensueth that is to say, if the tare extende to iiii. li. or aboue, by reasone wherof the dispensacion, licence, faculte, rescripte, or wrytinge, whiche shal passe by the saide archbishoppes seale, must be confirmed by thappension of the greate seale: then the sayde tare so extendynge to iiii. li. or aboue, shall be deuided into .iii. partes, wherof two shall be perteined by the sayde clerke of the chauncerie to be appoynted (as is aforesayde) to the vse of your highnes, your heires, and successours, and to the vse of the lorde chauncellour, or the keper of the greate seale, for the time beinge, and to the vse of the sayde clerke, in suche wyse as hereafter shall be declared. And the thirde parte shall be taken by the sayde clerke of the archebyshoppe, to the vse of the same archebishoppe and hys commissarye and his said clerke and regester, in suche wise as hereafter shall be ordered and lymytted by thys acte: That is to saye, the sayde twoo partes shall bee deuyded in foure partes, of whiche three partes shall bee taken to the onely vse of your hyghenes, your heires, and successours: and the fourthe parte shall bee deuided in three partes, whereof the Chauncellour of Englande, or lorde keper of the greate seale, for the tyme beinge, shall haue twoo partes, and the sayde clerke of the chauncerie the thyrde parte for his peines, trauayle, and labours, that he is lymytted to wrytte and doe by vertue of thys acte. And the sayde thyrde parte of the whole tare, appoynted to the

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ſaide archebiſhoppe and his officers (as is afore ſayde) ſhall be deuided into three partes, wherof the archebiſhoppe ſhall haue to hys vſe two partes, and his officers ſhall haue the thyrde parte therof: of whiche thyrde parte to be deuided into two partes, the ſayde clerke or regeſter, whiche ſhall finde parchment, ware, and ſilke, and ſhall deuiſe and write the ſayde diſpenſacions, licences, faculties, reſcriptes, or other writinges, and regeſtre the ſame ſhall haue for hys ſayde labour, and for receiuinge and repayenge of the ſummes of money, that ſhall come to his handes for diſpenſacions, faculties, licences, and other reſcriptes afore ſayde, the one moitie therof, and the commiſſarie of the ſayde archebiſhop, appoynted to ſeale the ſayde diſpenſacions, faculties, licences, and other reſcriptes, ſhall haue the other parte. And if the tare be vnder foure.li. and not vnder.xl.s. then the ſayde tare ſhall be deuided into three partes, as is afore ſayde, wherof, the kynges highnes, hys heires, & ſucceſſours ſhall haue .ii. partes wherof abating iii s.iiii.d. which ſhalbe to the ſayd clerke of the Chauncery for ſubſcribynge entitleynge and enrollynge the ſayde diſpenſacions, licences, faculties, reſcriptes, and other writinges afore ſayde, and receiuyng of the kynges money ſo tared: And the archebiſhop and his officers ſhall haue the third part whiche thirde parte ſhalbe deuided into two partes, whereof the archebiſhop ſhall haue the one entirely to hym ſelfe, his ſcribe and commiſſarye ſhall haue the other parte therof, egally to be deuided amonges them for their coſtes and peynes in that behalfe. And if the tare be vnder foure ſhillinges, and not vnder .xxvi.ſhillynges eyght pence, the ſame tare ſhall be deuided into two partes, wherof the one parte ſhall be to your grace, your heyres, and ſucceſſours, deductinge therof.ii.s. for the clerke of the chancerye, for his paynes, as is afore ſayde. And the other parte ſhall be to the ſayde archebyſhop and hys officers, whiche other parte ſhall be deuyded into two partes, wherof the archebiſhop ſhall haue the one, and hys commiſſarie and ſcribe ſhall haue the other egally deuided amonges them. And yf the tare be vnder.xxvi.s.viii.d. and not vnder.xx.s. the ſame ſhalbe deuided into two partes, wherof your grace your heires, and ſucceſſours ſhall haue the one parte entierlye, abatynge two ſhillynges therof to the ſayde clerke of the chauncerye: and the archebiſhop and his officers ſhall haue the other parte, and the ſame other parte ſhall be deuyded into three partes, wherof the archbyſhop ſhall haue one, hys commyſſarye the ſeconde, and his ſcribe or regeſter the thyrde. And in caſe the tare be vnder xx.s. the ſame ſhalbe perceiued to the vſe of the ſayde commiſſarye, clarke of the ſayde archebyſhop, and clarke of the chauncerie, to be egally deuided amongeſt them for theyr paynes and labours by them to be ſuſteined by auctoritie of this acte, as is afore ſayd.

¶ Prouided alwayes that thys acte ſhal not be preiudicial to the archbyſhoppe of yorke or to any biſhoppe or prelate of thys realme: but that they may lawfully (not withſtandinge this acte) diſpence in all caſes, in whiche they were wont to diſpence by the common law or cuſtome of this realme

afore

afore the makinge of this acte.

¶ Prouided also, and be it enacted by aucthoritie aforesaide, that if it happen the sea of the archebishoprieke of Canturbury to be voyd, that then all suche maner licences, dispensacions, faculties, instrumentes, rescryptes, and other writinges, which may be graunted by vertue and aucthoritie of this acte, shall (durynge the vacacion of the same see) be had, doone and graunted vnder the name and seale of the gardiane of the spiritualties of the sayde archebishoprieke for the tyme beinge, accordyng to tenoure and fourme of this acte, and shall be of like force, value, and effecte, as if they had bene graunted vnder the name and seale of the archebyshoppe for the time beinge.

¶ And be it further enacted, that if the foresayde archebyshop of Canturburye (for the time beinge) or the saide gardiane of the spiritualties, for the time being, hereafter refuse or denie to graunt any licences, dispensacions, faculties, instrumentes, or other writtinge, which they be aucthorised to doe by vertue and aucthorite of this act, in such maner and forme as is afore remembred to any person or persons, that ought of a good, iuste, and reasonable cause to haue the same, by reason wherof this presente acte by their wilfulnes, negligence, or defaulte, shoulde take none effecte: than the chancellour of Englande, or the lorde keper of the greate seale, for the tyme beyng, vpon any complaynte therof made, shall directe the kynges writte to the sayd archebishop or gardian, denienge or refusinge to graunt suche licences, dispensacions, faculties, or other writinges, iniopnyng hym by the sayde writte, vpon a certayne peine therin to be limitted by the discrecion of the sayde chauncellour, or keper of the greate seale, that he shall in due forme graunt suche licence, dispensacion, faculte, or other writing, accordinge to the requeste of the procurers of the same: or els signifie vnto your highnes, your heires or successours in the courte of Chauncerye, at a certayne daye, for what occasion or cause he refused and denied to graunt suche licences, faculties or dispensacions. And if it shall appere to the sayde Chauncellour, or lorde keper of the greate seale, vpon suche certificat, that the cause of refusall or denyall of graunting suche licences, facultie or dispensacion was reasonable, iuste, and good: that then so beinge proued by due serche and examinacion of the sayde Chauncellour, or lorde keper of the greate seale, to be admitted and allowed. And if it shall appere vpon the sayde certificatte, that the sayde archebyshoppe or gardyane of the spiritualityes, for the tyme beynge, of wylfulnes, in contempnynge the dewe execucyon of thys acte, wythout a iuste and reasonable cause, refused or denied to graunte suche licence, facultie, or dyspensacion: that then your highnes, your heires and successours, beynge therof informed, after due examinacion had, that suche licences, faculties, or dispensacions maye be graunted, without offendinge the holy scriptures, and lawes of god, shall haue power and aucthoritie in euery suche case, for the defaulte, negligence, and wilfulnes of the sayde archbyshop, or gardiane, to

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ſende your wrytte of Iniunction, vnder your great ſeale, out of your ſayde courte of Chauncerye, commaundynge the archebyſhop or gardian, that ſo ſhall denye or refuſe to graunt ſuch licence, facultie, or diſpenſacion, to make ſufficient graunt therof, accordynge to the tenour and effecte of thys acte, by a certayne daye, and vnder a certain peyne in the ſaide wrytte to be conteyned, and to be limitted by your highnes, your heires or ſucceſſours, kynges of thys realme. And if the ſayde archebiſhop or gardiane, after the receipte of the ſayde wrytte, refuſe or denye to graunt ſuche lycences, faculties, or diſpenſacions, as ſhall bee inioyned hym by vertue of the ſayde wrytte, and ſhewe and proue before your maieſtie, your heires, or ſucceſſours, no iuſte or reaſonable cauſe, why he ſhoulde ſo dooe, then the ſayde archebiſhoppe or gardiane, that ſo ſhall refuſe to putte thys acte in execucion, accordinge to the ſayde wrytte of Iniunction, ſhall ſuffre, loſe, and forfayte to your highnes, your heires, and ſucceſſours, ſuche peyne and penaltie, as ſhall be limitted and expreſſed in the ſayde wrytte of Iniunction. And ouer that it ſhall be lawfull to your highnes, your heires, and ſucceſſours, for euery ſuche defaulte and wilfulnes of the ſaide archbiſhop or gardiane, for the tyme beynge, to geue power and auctoritie by commiſſion, vnder your greate ſeale to ſuche two ſpirituall prelates or perſones to bee named by your highnes, your heires, or ſucceſſours, as will do and graunt ſuch licences, faculties, and diſpenſacions, refuſed or denied to be graunted by the ſayd archebiſhop, or gardian, in contempte of this acte.

¶ And be it further enacted, by auctoritie aforeſayde, that the ſayde twoo ſpyrituall prelates or perſones, to whome in ſuche caſes, anye ſuche commiſſion ſhalbe directed, ſhall haue power and auctorite to graūt euery ſuch licence, facultie, diſpenſacion, inſtrument, and other wrytinges ſo refuſed to be graunted by the ſayde archebiſhop or gardian for the tyme beinge, by an inſtrumente vnder their ſeales, takinge like fees and charges for the ſame, as is before reherſed, and not aboue, vnder the peines afore remembred. And that euery ſuche licence, facultie, and diſpenſacion ſo graunted for any caſes or matters, wherunto any confirmacion vnder the kinges great ſeale is appoynted by this acte, to be had in maner and fourme aboue declared, ſhall be had and obteined accordinglye. And ſuche licences and confirmacions ſhalbe had for like fees and charges, as they are aboue ſpecified, and not aboue, vnder the peynes aboue mencioned. And that euery ſuche licence, facultie, diſpenſacion, and other wrytinge to be graunted by the ſayde prelates or perſons to be aſſygned by the kinges hyghnes, hys heires, and ſucceſſours, as is aforeſayd, ſhall be of as good value, ſtrength and effecte, and as beneficiall and profitable to the perſones procurynge the ſame, as if they had bene made graunted and obteyne vnder the name and ſeale of the ſayde archebiſhop.

¶ Prouided alwayes that this acte nor any thinge or thinges therin conteined, ſhalbe hereafter interpreted or expounded, ỹ your grace your nobles & ſubiectes intend by the ſame to decline or vary from the congregacion of

Chriſtes

Chriſtes churche, in any thinges, concernynge the verie articles of the Catholyke faythe of chriſtendome, or in anye other thinges declared by holy ſcripture & the worde of god neceſſary for your & their ſalnacions, but only to make an ordenance by polices neceſſarie and conuenient to repreſſe vice and for good conſeruation of this realme in peace, vnite, and tranquillite, from ruine and ſpoyle, inſuynge muche the olde aunciente cuſtomes of this realme in that behalfe. Not mindynge to ſeeke for anye releefes, ſuccours, or remedies for any worldly thynges and humayne lawes, in anye cauſe of neceſſitie, but wythin thys realme at the handes of your highnes, your heyres, and ſucceſſours kynges of thys realme, whiche haue & ought to haue an imperial power and aucthoritie in the ſame, and not obliged in any worldly cauſes to any other ſuperiour.

¶ Prouided alwaye that the ſayde archebyſhoppe of Canturburye, or anye other perſon or perſons, ſhall haue no power or aucthoritie by reaſō of this acte, to viſite or vere any monaſteryes, abbeis, priores, colleges, hoſpytals, houſes, or other places religyous, whyche be or were exempte before the makynge of this acte, any thinge in thys acte to the contrary thereof not wythſtandynge, but that redreſſe, viſitacyon, and confirmacyon ſhalbe had by the kynges highenes, his heires and ſucceſſours by commyſſion vnder the greate ſeale to be directed to ſuche perſons, as ſhall bee appoynted requiſite for the ſame, in ſuche monaſteryes, colleges, hoſpitals, priories, houſes and places religious exempte. So that no viſitacion nor confyrmacion ſhall from henceforth be had or made, in or at anye ſuche monaſteries, colleges, hoſpitalles, priories, houſes and places religious exempte by the ſayd biſhop of Rome, nor by any of his aucthorite, nor by any out of the kinges dominions. Nor that any perſon religious or other reſyant in any the kinges dominions, ſhall from henceforth departe out of the kynges domynyons, to or for any viſitacion, congregacion, or aſſemble for religion, but that all ſuche viſitacions, congregations, and aſſemblies ſhall be wythin the kinges dominions.

¶ Prouided alſo, that this preſente acte, or anye thynge therin conteyned, or any licence or diſpenſacion hereafter to be made by vertue and auctorite therof, ſhall not extende to the repeale or derogacion of the late acte made lith the beginnige of this preſent parliament, for the reformacion of pluralites of benefices, and for none reſydences of ſpiritual perſons vppon theyr dignities or benefices, nor to any thinges conteyned or mencioned in the ſayde acte. Nor that this acte, nor any thing to be done by aucthoritie therof, ſhall not be taken, expounded, nor interpreted, to geue licence to anye perſon or perſons, to haue any more numbre of benefices, then is limitted in the ſayde acte. And that the ſame acte for pluralites and none reſidences of benefices, & euery thinge therin conteyned ſhall ſtande good & effectuall in all intentes, according to the true meanynge therof, any thinge in thys preſent acte, or any licence or diſpenſacion to be had by aucthoritie therof in any wyſe not withſtanding.

¶ And

¶ And be it further enacted by aucthoritie aforesayd, that if any person or persons, subiecte or resiante within this realme, or within anye of the kinges dominions, at any tyme herafter sue to the courte of Rome, or the sea of Rome, or to any person, clayminge to haue hys aucthoritie by the same, for anye licence, facultie, dispensacion, or other thinge or thinges contrarye to this acte, or put in execution any licence, facultie, or dispensacion, or anye other thinge or thinges hereafter to be obteyned from Rome or the see of Rome, or from anye clayming aucthoritie by the same, for any of the causes aboue mencioned in this acte, or for any other causes that maye bee graunted by aucthoritie of this act, or attempt or do any thing or thinges, contrarye to this acte, or maynteine, allowe, admitte, or obeye any maner of censures, excomunicacions, interdictions, or anye other processe from Rome, of what name or nature so euer it bee, to the derogacion or lette of the execution of this acte, or of anye thinge or thinges to be done by reason of the sayde acte, that then euery suche person or persons so doinge, offendinge, and beinge therof conuicte, their aydours, counsaylours, and abbettours shall incurre and runne into the peyne, losse, and penaltie comprised, and specified in the acte of Prouision and Premunire, made in the sixetene yeare of your moste noble progenitour kinge Rycharde the seconde, ageynste suche as sue to the Courte of Rome, agaynst your Crowne and dignitie royall,

¶ Prouided alwaye that this acte or anye thinge therein conteyned shall not hereafter be taken nor expounded to the derogacion or takinge awaye of any grauntes or confirmacions of any liberties, priuileges, or iurisdictiō of anye monasteries, abbeies, pryories, or other houses or places exempte, whiche heretofore the makinge of this acte, hath bene obteined at the See of Rome, or by aucthoritie therof, but that euery such grant and confirmacion shalbe of the same value, force and effecte, as they were afore the makinge of this acte, and as yf this acte had neuer bene made. Prouided alwaies, that the abbotes, priours, and other cheife rulers and gouernours of suche monasteries, abbeies, priories, and other houses & places exempte shall not hereafter paye anye pencion, porcion or other cense to the See of Rome, nor admit or accept any visitacion nor any confirmacion from or by the sayd see of Rome, or by aucthoritie therof, of or for any person to be elect named or presented to be heades of anye suche monasteries, abbeies, pryories, places, or houses exempte: nor shall make anye corporall othe to the bishop of Rome, otherwise called the pope, vpon the peines limitted in thys acte. But that euery suche visitacion and confirmacion of suche heades electe in any suche monasteries, abbeies, priories, houses, or places exempte, where after their election they were bounden to haue and obteine anye confirmacion of their election, or of the person named, presented, or electe shalbe from henceforth had, made, and done within this realme, at & with in euery suche abbeies, monasteries, priories, and other houses and places exempte by suche person and persons as shalbe appoynted by aucthoritie of

the kinges commission from time to tyme, as the case shall require, and not by the See of Rome nor by auctoritie therof, any thinge in thys next prouiso aboue specified to the contrary therof not withstandinge.

¶ Prouided alwayes, that in suche monasteryes, abbeis, prioryes, and houses exempte, where after election, presentacion, or nominacion of theyr heades, no suche confirmacion is requisite to be had, nor hath bene vsed to be taken by reason of suche preueleges as they haue concerninge the same, that in euerye suche monasteries, abbeis, prioryes, and places exempt, they shall not be bounden to obteine haue or take any confirmacion for the same within this realme by auctoritie of thys acte, but vse their priuileges therin, as they haue done before the makinge of thys acte, anye thinge in thys acte, or any the prouisos nerte aboue rehersed, to the contrarye therof not withstandinge.

¶ Prouided also and be it enacted, that this acte or any thinge or thynges worde or wordes therin, or in the preamble therof mencioned or conteined is not intended or ment, nor shall be expounded nor interpret, that any dispensacions, licences, or confirmacions for mariages, graunted to anye the kinges subiectes, borne vnder his obeisance, at anye tyme before the .xii. daye of Marche, in the yere of our lorde god. 1533. shall be appeired or of anye lesse value, strengthe, force or effecte, then they were, at the sayde xii. daye of Marche. Nor that this acte, or any thinge therin conteyned, shall not extende to the derogacion, appeyringe, or adnullacion of anye licences, dispensacions, confirmacions, faculties, or indulgences at anye tyme before the sayde .xii. daye of Marche, in the yeare of our lorde god .1533. had or obteined at the See of Rome, or by auctoritie thereof to or for anye subiectes borne in this realme, or in anye the kynges dominions, or to or for the hospital of the priour of sainct Johnes Jerusalem in Englande, or anye commandryes or membres therof, or to or for anye other cathedrall churches, hospitals, monasteries, abbeis, prioryes, colledges, conuentuall churches, parochiall churches, chappelles, fraternyties, brotherheades, or bodies politike within thys realme, or in any other the kinges dominions: but that euery suche licence, dispensacion, confirmacyon, faculty, and indulgence, graunted before the saide .xii. daye of Marche to anye suche subiecte, or to the saide hospitall of the priour of saincte Johnes Jerusalem in Englande, and commandryes or membres thereof, or to anye other cathedrall churche, hospitalle, monasterye, abbey, pryorye, colledge, churche conuentuall, parochiall churche, chappell, fraternitie, brotherhead, or bodie politike, or to theyr predecessours, or auntetours wythin thys realme, or in anye other the kinges dominyons, shall bee of the same force, strengthe, value, and effecte, and may be from time to time put in execucion at all tymes hereafter by and to them that will vse and haue the same, as they mought haue bene afore the making of this act, and as if this acte had neuer ben had ne made, any thinge in the said act to the contrarye hereof not withstandinge,

¶ Pro-

¶ Prouided alwayes, that suche licences, dipensacions, confyrmacyons, or faculties heretofore obteined at the sea of Rome, or by aucthoritie therof, contrarye to the expresse prouisions of the lawes & statutes of this realme, heretofore made, shall not at any time hereafter be vsed or put in execution in any case, to the derogacion or contrarie to the saide lawes & statutes of this realme, and the prouisions of the same: any thinge in thys Prouiso to the contrary therof not withstanding.

¶ And be it enacted by aucthoritie of this presente parliamente, that the kinge our soueraigne lorde, by the aduise of his honourable counsayle shall haue power and aucthoritie from time to time, for the ordering, redresse, & reformacion of all maner of Indulgences & priuileges therof within thys realme, or within anye the kinges dominions heretofore obteined at the see of Rome, or by aucthoritie therof, and of the abuses of such indulgences and priuileges therof, as shall seme good, holsome, and reasonable for the honour of god and weale of his people: and that suche order and redresse, as shall be taken by his highnes in that behalfe, shall be obserued & firmely kepte vpon the paines limitted in this acte for the offendinge of the contentes of the same.

¶ An acte declaring the establishment of succession of the kinges most royal maiestie in the imperiall crowne of this realme. Ca. xxii.

IN their most humble wise shewen vnto your maiestie your moste humble and obedient subiectes, the lordes spirituall and temporall, and the cōmons in this present parliament assembled, that since it is the naturall inclinacion of euerye man, gladly and willingly to prouide for the suertie of bothe his title & succession, althoughe it touche his onely pryuate cause. We therfore moste rightfull and dredfull soueraygne lorde, recken our selues much more bounden to beseche, and instant your highnes, althoughe we doubt not of your princly harte and wisdome, mixed with a naturall affection to the same, to forese and prouide for the perfitte suertie of bothe you and of your moste lawfull succession and heires, vppon whiche dependeth all our ioye and welth: in whom also is vnited and knitte the only mere true inheritaunce and title of this realme, without any contradiction. Wherefore we your sayd most humble and obedient subiectes: in this present parliament assembled, callinge to our remembraunce the greate diuisions, whiche in tymes paste haue bene in this realme, by reason of seuerall titles pretended to the imperiall crowne of the same, whiche sometimes, and for the most part ensued by occasion of ambiguitie and doubtes, then not so perfectly declared, but that men mighte vppon frowarde intentes expounde them to euerye mans sinestre appetite, & affection, after their sence, contrary to the ryght

 legalitee

legalitie of the succession and posteritye of the lawfull kinges and empe-
rours of this realme: whereof hath insued great effusion and distruction of
mans bloud, as well of a greate numbre of the nobles as of other the sub-
iectes, & specially inheritours in the same. And the greatest occasion therof
hath bene because no perfecte and substanciall prouision by lawe hath bene
made within this realme of it selfe, when doubtes and questions haue ben
moued and proponed of the certayntie and legalitie of the succession and
posteritie of the crowne. By reason wherof the bishop of Rome & see apo-
stolike, contrarye to the greate and inuiolable grauntes of iurisdictions
by god imediately to emperours, kinges, and princes in succession to theyr
heires, hath presumed in tymes past to invest, who shoulde please them to
inherite in other mennes kingedomes and dominions: whiche thynge we
your moste humble subiectes, bothe spirituall and temporall, doe most ab-
hore & detest. And sometimes other forayne princes & potentates of sundry
degrees, minding rather dissension & discorde to continue in the realme, to
the vtter dislocation therof, then charitie, equitie, or vnitie, haue many ty-
mes supported wronge titles, whereby they mighte the more easily & facily
aspyre to the superiorite of the same. The continuance & sufferance wherof
depely considered and pondered, were to daungerous and perillous to be
suffered any lenger within this realme, and to muche contrarye to the v-
nitie, peace and tranquillitie of the same, beinge greately reprocheable and
dishonorable to the whole realme.

¶ In consideracion wherof your saide moste humble and obedyente sub-
iectes, the nobles and the commons of this realme, calling further to their
remembraunce, that the good vnitee, peace, and welthe of thys realme,
and the succession of the subiectes of the same moste specially and princy-
pallye aboue all worldelye thynges, consysteth and resteth in the certayn-
tie and suertie of the procreacion, and posteritie of your hyghnes, in whose
moste royall persone at this present time is no maner of doubte nor que-
stion, doe therefore moste humblye beseche your highnes, wyth the as-
sent of the lordes spirituall and temporall, and the commons in thys pre-
sent parliament assembled, and by auctoritie of the same, that the mariage
heretofore solempnised betwene your hignes and the ladye Katharine, be-
inge before lawfull wife to prince Arthure, your elder brother, whyche by
him was carnally knowen, as dothe duely appeare by sufficient proue in a
lawfull processe had and made before Thomas, by the sufferance of God,
nowe archebishop of Canturbury and Metropolitane and primate of all
this realme, shall be by auctoritie of this present parliament, diffinitiuely,
clerely, and absolutely declared, demed, and adiudged to be againste the
lawes of almightye god, and also accepted, reputed, and taken of no value
ne effecte: but vtterlye voyde and adnichiled: and the seperacyon thereof
made, by the said archebishoppe shall be good and effectuall to all intentes
and purposes, any licence, dispensacion, or anye other acte or actes goinge

afore

afore, or ensuing the same, or to the contrary therof, in any wise not withstandinge. And that euery suche licence, dispensacion, acte or actes, thinge or thinges heretofore had, made, done or to be done to the contrarye therof shall be voyde and of none effecte. And that the sayde ladye Katherine shalbe from henceforth called and reputed only Dowager the prynce Arthure, and not queene of this realme. And that the lawfull matrimony had and solempnised betwene your highnes, & your most deare and entierly beloued wyfe queene Anne shall be established, and taken for undoubtefull, trewe, sincere, and perfecte euer hereafter, according to the iuste iudgemente of the sayde Thomas archbishop of Canturbury, metropolitane and primate of all this realme, whose groundes of iudgement haue bene confirmed as well by the hole clergye of this realme, in bothe the conuocations, and by bothe the vniuersities therof, as by the vniuersities of Bonony, Padoa, Paris, Orleance, Tholouse, Angiewe, and diuers others: And also by the priuate writinges of many right excellent well learned menne. Whiche groundes so confirmed, and iudgemente of the sayde archebyshoppe ensuynge the same, together with your mariage solempnised, betwene your highnesse, and your sayde lawfull wife Queene Anne, We your saide subiectes bothe spirituall and temporall, doe putelye, playnelye, constantlye, and firmely accepte, approue, and ratifie for good and consonante to the lawes of almightye god, without errour or defaulte: Moste humblie beseechynge your maiestie, that it maye be so establyshed for euer by your moste gracious and royall assent,

¶ And furthermore since many inconuenience haue fallen as well within this realme as in others, by reason of marryenge within the degrees of mariage prohibite by goddes lawes, that is to saye, The sonne to marye the mother, or the stepmother, The brother the sister, The father, hys sonnes daughter, or hys daughters daughter, or the sonne to marye the daughter of hys father, procreate and borne by hys stepmother, or the sonne to marie his aunte, being his father or mothers sister, or to marye his vncles wife, or the father to marie hys sonnes wyfe, or the brother to marie hys brothers wyfe, or anye man to marye his wyues daughter, or his wyues sonnes daughter, or his wiues daughters daughter, or his wiues sister. Whiche mariages all be it they bee playnelie prohybited and detested by the lawes of almighty god, yet neuertheles at some times they haue proceded vnder colours of dispensacions by mans power, whiche is but vsurped, and of right ought not to be graunted, admitted ne allowed. For no man of what estate, degree, or condicion so euer he be, hath power to dispence wyth goddes lawes, as all the clergye of this realme in the sayde Conuocacions, and the most parte of all the famous vniuersities of Christendome, and we also doe affirme and thinke.

¶ Be it therfore enacted by authoritie aforesayde, that no persone or persones, subiectes or resiantes of this realme, or in any your dominions, of what estate, degree, or dignitie so euer they be, shall from henceforth marye

 wythin

within the saide degrees afore reherſed, what pretence ſo euer ſhalbe made to the contrary therof. And in caſe any perſon or perſons, of what eſtate dignitie, degree, or condicion ſo euer they be, hath bene heretofore maried within this realme, or in anye the kinges dominions, within anye the degrees abone expreſſed, and by anye the archebyſhoppes, byſhoppes, or miniſters of the Churche of Englande, be ſeperate from the boundes of ſuche vnlawfull mariage, that then euery ſuche ſeperacion ſhall be good, lawfull, ſyrme, and permanent for euer: And not by any power, auctho-ritie, or meanes to be reuoked or vndone hereafter. And that the children proceedynge or procreate vnder ſuche vnlawfull maryage ſhall not bee lawfull ne legitimate: anye forayne lawes, licences, diſpenſa-cions, or other thinge or thynges to the contrarye thereof not withſtand-inge.

¶ And in caſe there be any perſon or perſons within this realme, or in any the kinges dominions, already maried within any the ſaid degrees above ſpecified, & not yet ſeperat from the boundes of ſuch vnlawful mariage: that thē euery ſuch perſō ſo vnlaufully maried ſhalbe ſeperate by the diffinityue ſentence and iudgementes of the archebiſhoppes, biſhoppes, & other miny-ſters of the churche of Englande, and in other your dominions within the limittes of their iuriſdictions & auethorities, and by none other power or auethoritie. And that all ſentences and iudgementes, geuen and to be ge-uen by any archebiſhoppe, byſhoppe, or other miniſter of the church of En-glande, or in other the kinges dominions, within the limittes of theyr iu-riſdictions and auethoritie, ſhall be diffinitiue, firme, good, and effectual to all intentes, and be obſerued and obeyed without fainge any pronocations appeles, prohibicions, or other proceſſe from the courte at Rome, to the derogacion therof, or contrary to the acte made ſince the beginning of this preſent parliament for reſtraynte of ſuche pronocations, appeles, prohiby-cions, and other proceſſes.

¶ And alſo bee it enacted by auethoritie aforeſayd, that all the iſſue hadde and procreate, or hereafter to be had and procreate betweene your highnes, and your ſayde moſte dere and entierly beloued wife queene Anne, ſhall be your lawfull children, and be inheritable and inheryte accordynge to the courſe of inheritance and lawes of this realme, the imperial crowne of the ſame, with all dignities, honours, preheminences, prerogatiues, auethori-ties, and iuriſdictions to the ſame annered or belonginge in as large and ample maner, as your highnes at this preſent tyme hath the ſame, as king of this realme, the inheritance therof to be & remaine to your ſaide children & right heires, in maner and forme as hereafter ſhall be declared. That is to ſay, firſt the ſaid imperial crowne, and other the premiſes, ſhalbe to your maieſtie, and to your heires of your body lawfully begotten, that is to ſay, to the firſt ſonne of your bodie betweene your highnes, & your ſaid lawfull wife, queene Anne, begotten, and to the heires of the bodye of the ſame firſte ſonne lawfully begotten. And for defaulte of ſuche heyres, then to the

ſeconde

ſeconde ſonne of your body, and of the body of the ſayde Queene Anne begotten, and to the heires of the body of the ſaid ſeconde ſonne lawfully begotten. And ſo to euery ſonne of your bodie, and of the body of the ſaide queene Anne begotten, and to the heires of the bodye of euery ſuche ſonne begotten, accordinge to the courſe of inheritaunce in that behalfe: and yf it ſhall happen your ſaide deere and entierly beloued wife queene Anne to deceſſe without iſſue male of the bodye of your highnes to be gotten (whiche god defende) then the ſame imperiall crowne and all other the premyſſes to be to your maieſtie as is aforeſaide, and to the ſonne and heire male of your body lawfully begotten, & to the heires of the body of the ſame ſon and heire male lawfully begotten, and for default of ſuch iſſue, then to your ſeconde ſonne of your body lawfully begotten, & to the heires of the bodye of the ſame ſeconde ſonne lawfully begotten: and ſo from ſonne and heire male, to ſonne and heire male, and to the heires of the ſeuerall bodies of euery ſuch ſonne and heire male to begotten, according to the courſe of inheritance, in like maner and fourme as is aboueſayd. And for default of ſuch ſonnes of your bodies begotten, and of the heires of the ſeuerall bodyes of euery ſuch ſonnes lawfully begotten, that then the ſaid imperial crowne & other the premiſes, ſhalbe to the iſſue female betwene your maieſtie & your ſaid moſt deere and entierly beloued wife queen anne begotten. That is to ſaye, firſt to the eldeſt iſſue female, whiche is the lady Elizabeth now princes, and to the heires of her bodye lawfully begotten: and for defaulte of ſuche iſſue, then to the ſeconde iſſue female, and to the heyres of her bodye lawfully begotten, and ſo from iſſue female to iſſue female, and to theyr heires of their bodies one after an other, by courſe of inheritaunce, accordinge to their ages, as the crowne of Englande hath bene accuſtomed and ought to goe in caſes when there be heires females to the ſame. and for defaulte of ſuche iſſue: then the ſayde imperiall crowne, and all other the premiſſes, be in the right heires of your highnes for euer.

¶ And be it further enacted by auctheritie aforeſayde, that on this ſide the firſte daye of Maye nexte commynge, proclamacions ſhall bee made in all ſhires within this realme of the tenour and contentes, of this acte: and yf anye perſon or perſones, of what eſtate, dignitie, or condicion ſo euer they be, ſubiecte or reſiant within thys realme, or elſ where, within anye the kinges Dominions, after the ſaide firſte daye of Maye, by wrytinge or imprintinge, or by anye exterior acte or deede, maliciouſly procure or doe, or cauſe to be procured or done any thinge or thinges to the peril of your moſt royall perſon, or maliciouſly geue occaſion by wrytinge, print, dede or acte, wherby your highnes might be diſtourbed or interrupted for the crowne of this realme, by wrytinge, prynte, dede, or acte, procure or doe, or cauſe to be procured or done anye thinge or thinges to the preiudice, ſclaunder, diſtourbance, or derogacion of the ſaide lawfull matrimonie ſolempnyſed betwene your maieſtie and the ſayd queene Anne; or to the peril, ſclaunder or diſherſon of any the iſſues and heires of your highnes, beynge ſymitted

by

by this acte to inherite and to be inheritable to the crowne of thys realme, in suche fourme as is aforesayde: whereby any suche issues or heires of your highnes might be distroyed, disturbed, or interrupted in body or tytle of inheritance to the crowne of this realme, as to them is limitted in this acte, in forme above reherced: that then every suche person and persons of what estate, degre, or condition they be of, subiecte or reliant within this realm and their aydours, counsaylours, and mainteinours, and abettours, and every of them, for every suche offence shall be adiudged high traytours, and every suche offence shalbe adiudged highe treason, and the offendours and their aydours, counsaylours, mainteyners, and abettours, and everye of them beynge lawfully convicte of suche offence by presentmente, verdicte, confession or processe, according to the customes and lawes of this realme shall suffre paynes of death, as in cases of highe treason. And that also every suche offendour, beinge convicte, as is aforesayde, shall loose and forfayte to your highnes, and to your heires kinges of this realme, all such manours, landes, tenementes, rentes, annuities, and hereditamentes, whiche they had in possession, as owners, or were sole seased of, by or in any right, title, or meanes, or any other person or persons had to their use, of any estate of enheritaunce, at the daye of suche treasons and offences by them committed and done. And shall also lose and forfaite to your highnes and to your saide heires, as well all manner suche estates of freehold and interestes for yeares, of landes and rentes, and all their goodes, catelles, and debtes, whiche they had at the time of conviction or attaindre of anye suche offence. Saunge alwaies to every person and persons, and bodyes politicke to their heires, assignes, and successours, and every of them, other then suche persons as shall be so convicte, and their heires and successours, and all other claymynge to their uses, all suche right, title, use, interest, possession, condicion, rentes, fees, annuites, offices, and commons, whiche they or anye of them shall happen to haue, in, to, or upon any suche manours landes, tenementes, rentes, annuites, or hereditamentes, that so shall happen to be lost and forfayte by reason of attaindre, for any the treasons and offences above reherced, at any time before the saide treasons and offences committed.

¶ And be it further enacted by authoritie aforesayde, that if any persone or persons, after the sayde first day of Maye by any wordes without writyng, or anye exterriour deede or acte, maliciously and obstinately publishe, diuulge, or vtter anye thinge or thynges, to the perill of your highnes, or the sclaunder or preiudice of the sayde matrimony, solempnised betweene your highnes and the saide queene Anne, or to the sclaunder or dishertion of the issue and heires of your body begotten, and to be begotten of the sayde queene Anne, or any other your lawfull heires, which shalbe inheritable to the crowne of this realme, as is afore limitted by this acte: that then euerye such offence shalbe taken and adiudged for misprision of treason. And that euery person and persons of what estate, degree, or condicion so euer they

they be, subiecte or resiant within this realme, or in anye the kinges domynions, so doinge and offendinge, and being therof lawfully conuict by presentment, verdicte, proceſſe, or confeſſion, ſhall ſuffre imprisonment of their bodies at the kinges will, and ſhall loſe as well all their goodes, cattalles, and debtes, as all ſuche intereſtes and eſtates of free holde, or for yeares, whiche any ſuche offendours ſhall haue of or in any landes, rentes, or hereditamentes, what ſo euer at the time of conuiction and atteindre of ſuche offence.

¶ And be it alſo enacted by aucthoritie aforeſayde, that no perſon nor perſons offendyng in any the treaſons or meſpriſions conteined and inwritted by this acte, ſhall in any wiſe haue or inioy the priuilege, or immunytie of anye maner of ſainctuaries within this realme, or elſ where within anye the kinges dominions, but ſhall vtterlye loſe and be excluded of the ſame: any vſe, cuſtome, graunt, preſcripcion, confyrmacion, or anye other thinge or thinges, to the contrary therof in any wiſe not withſtanding.

¶ And be it alſo enacted by aucthoritie aforeſayde, that yf your maieſtie ſhoulde happen to diſceſſe before anye ſuche your iſſue and heyre male, whiche ſhoulde inherite the crowne of this realme, ſhall be of his age of xviii. yeres, or before ſuche your iſſue & heire female, whiche ſhoulde inherite the crowne of this realme, ſhall be maried, or be of the age of. xvi. yeares, (whiche almightie god defende) that then your ſayde iſſue & heire male to the crowne ſo being within the ſaide age of. xviii. yeres, or your ſaid iſſue & heire female to the crowne, being vnmaried, or within the ſayd age of xvi yeres: ſhalbe & remaine vnto ſuch time as ſuch iſſues and heires ſhall come to their ſayd ſeuerall ages afore limitted, at and in the gouernance of their naturall mother, ſhe liuyng with ſuch others counſailours of your realme as your maieſtie in your life time ſhall depute and aſſigne by your will, or other wiſe for the ſame, without contradiction of anye perſon or perſones to the contrarye therof. And if any perſon or perſons by wrytyng or exteriour deede or acte, procure or do, or cauſe to be procured or done any thinge or thinges to the let or diſturbaunce of the ſame: that then euerye ſuche offence ſhalbe high treaſon, and the offendours, beinge therof conuicte, ſhall ſuffre ſuche paynes of death, and loſſes of inheritaunce, freeholdes, intereſtes of yeres, goodes, cattelles, and debtes in ſuch maner and fourme as is aboue ſpecified in caſes of treaſon afore mencioned.

¶ And for the more ſure eſtabliſhmēt of the ſucceſſion of your moſte royall maieſtie, accordinge to the tenour and fourme of this acte: Be it further enacted by aucthoritie aforeſayde, that as well all the nobles of your realme ſpirituall and temporal, as all other your ſubiectes now liuinge and beynge, or that hereafter ſhalbe at their full ages, by the commaundement of your maieſtie, or of your heires, at all times hereafter from time to time when it ſhall pleaſe your highnes, or your heires to appoynte, ſhall make a corporall othe in the preſence of your highnes, or your heires: or before ſuche other, as your maieſtie or your heires will depute for the ſame: that

they

they shall truely, firmely, and constantly without fraude or guile observe, fulfill, and mainteine, defende and kepe, to their cunninge, witte, and vttermost of their powers, the hole effectes and contentes, of this present acte. And that all maner your subiectes, as well spirituall as temporall lyenge liueray, restitucions, or oter le main out of the handes of your highnes or of your heires, or doinge anye fealtye to your highnes or to your heires, by reason of tenure of their landes, shall sweare a like corporal othe, that they and euery of them, without fraude or gyle, to their cunninge wytte, and vttermoste of their powers, shall truely, firmely, and constantly observe, fulfyll, mainteine, defende, and kepe the effectes and contentes conteined and specified in this acte. or in any parte therof. And that they nor anye of them shall hereafter haue anye liueraies, oter le mayne, or restytucion out of your handes, nor out of the handes of your heires, tyll they haue made the sayde corporall othe, in fourme aboue rehersed. And yf any person or persons, beinge commanded by aucthoritie of this acte, to make the saide othe afore limitted, obstinately refuse that to doe in contempt of this acte, that then euery such person (so doinge) to be taken and accepted for offendour in mesprision of highe treason: and that euerye suche refusall shall be deemed and adiudged mesprision of high treason: and the offendour therin to suffre such peines and imprisonment, losses and forfaitures and also lose pryuyleges of saintuaries, in like maner and fourme as is aboue mencioned for the mesprisions of treasons afore limitted by this acte. ¶ Prouyded alwayes, that the article in this acte conteyned concernynge prohibicions of mariages within the degrees afore mencioned in this acte, shall alwayes be taken, interpreted, and expounded of suche maryages, where mariages were solemnized, and carnall knowledge was had.

God saue the Kinge.

E. J. M.
2/20/24